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Geronimo Stilton

# THE FASTEST TRAIN IN THE WEST





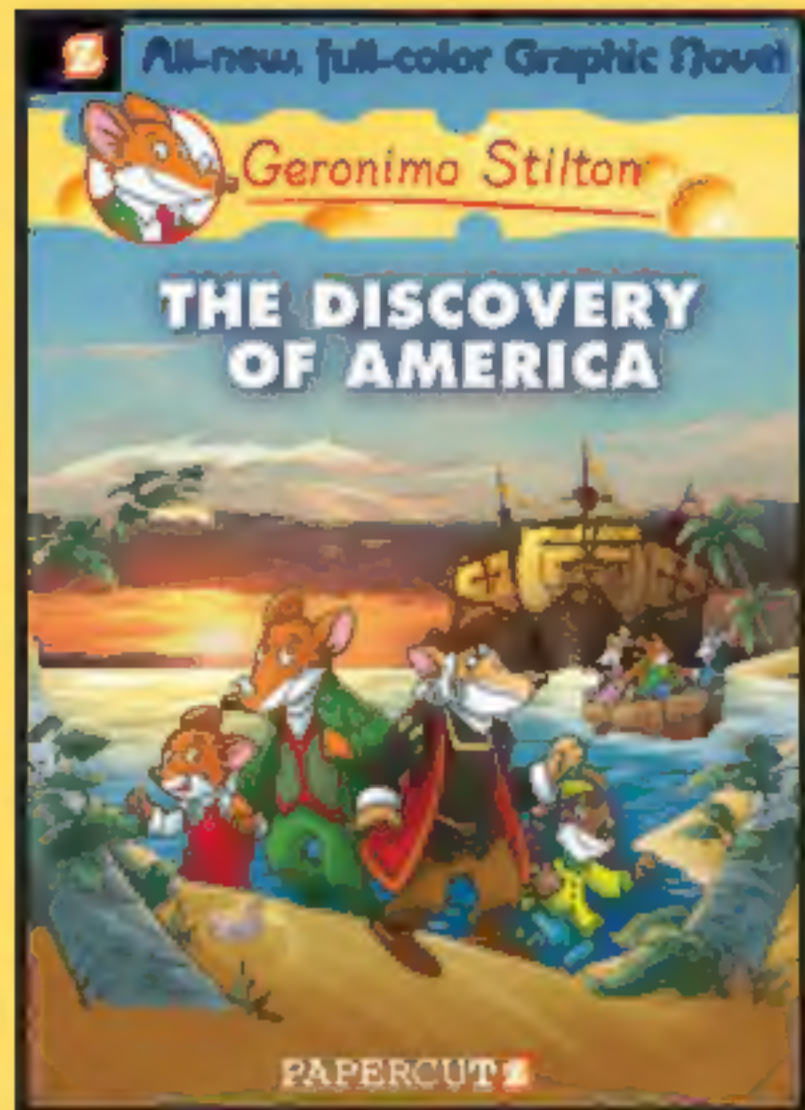
# Geronimo Stilton





# Geronimo Stilton & Thea Stilton

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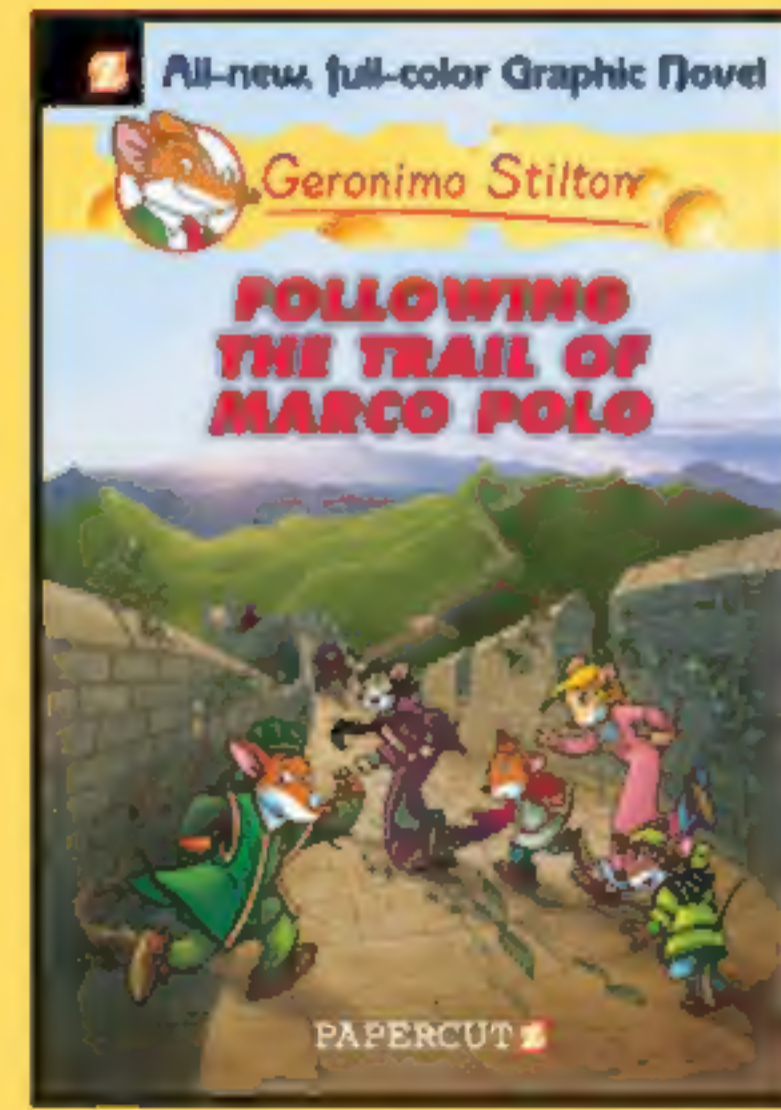
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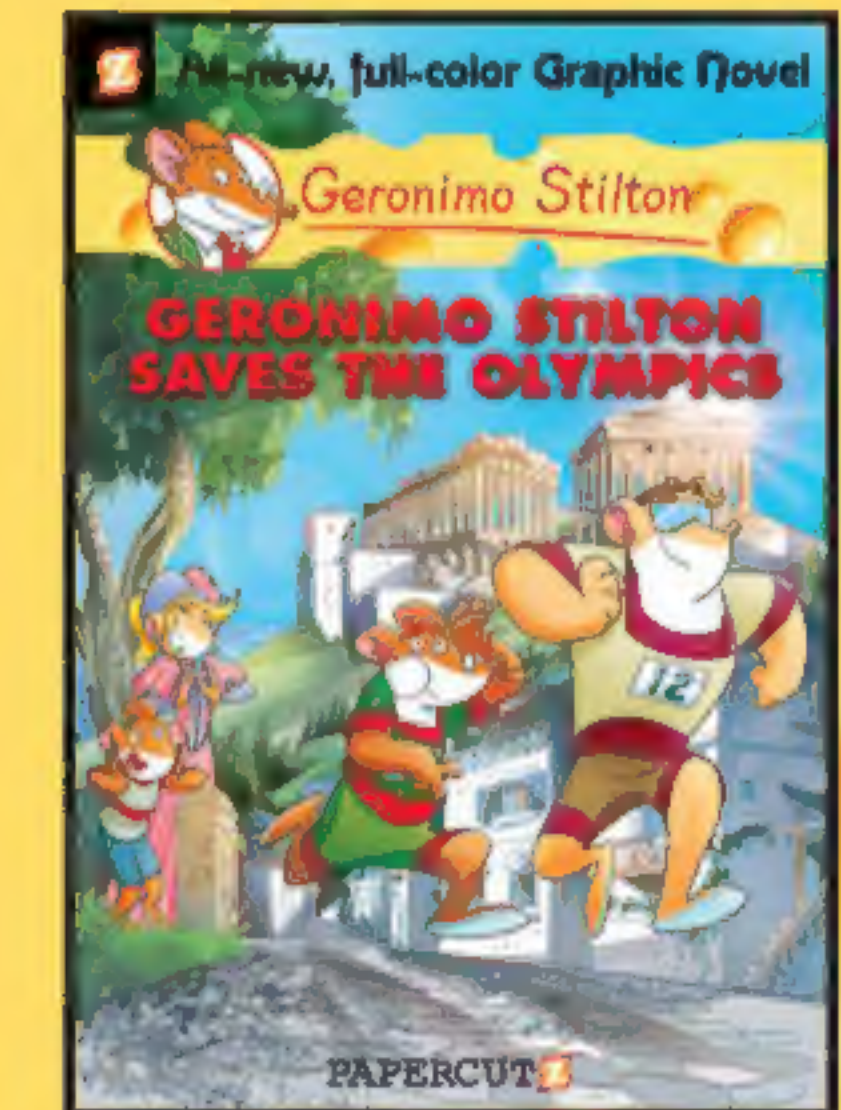
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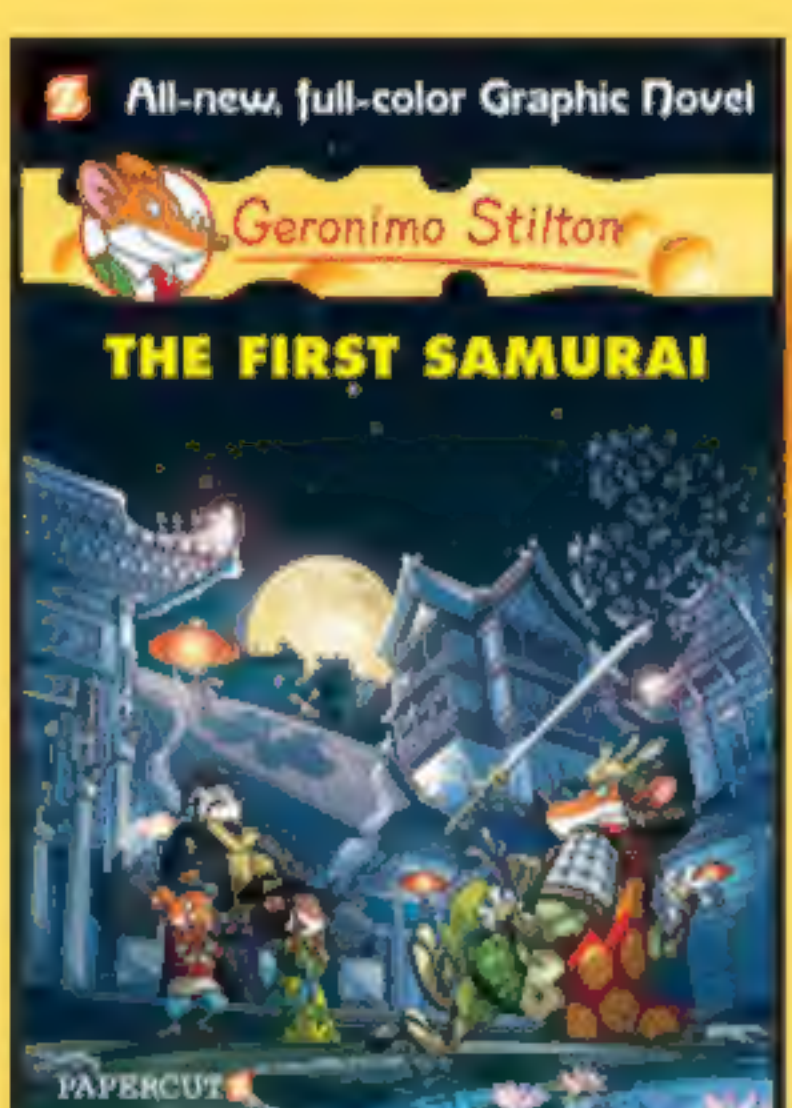
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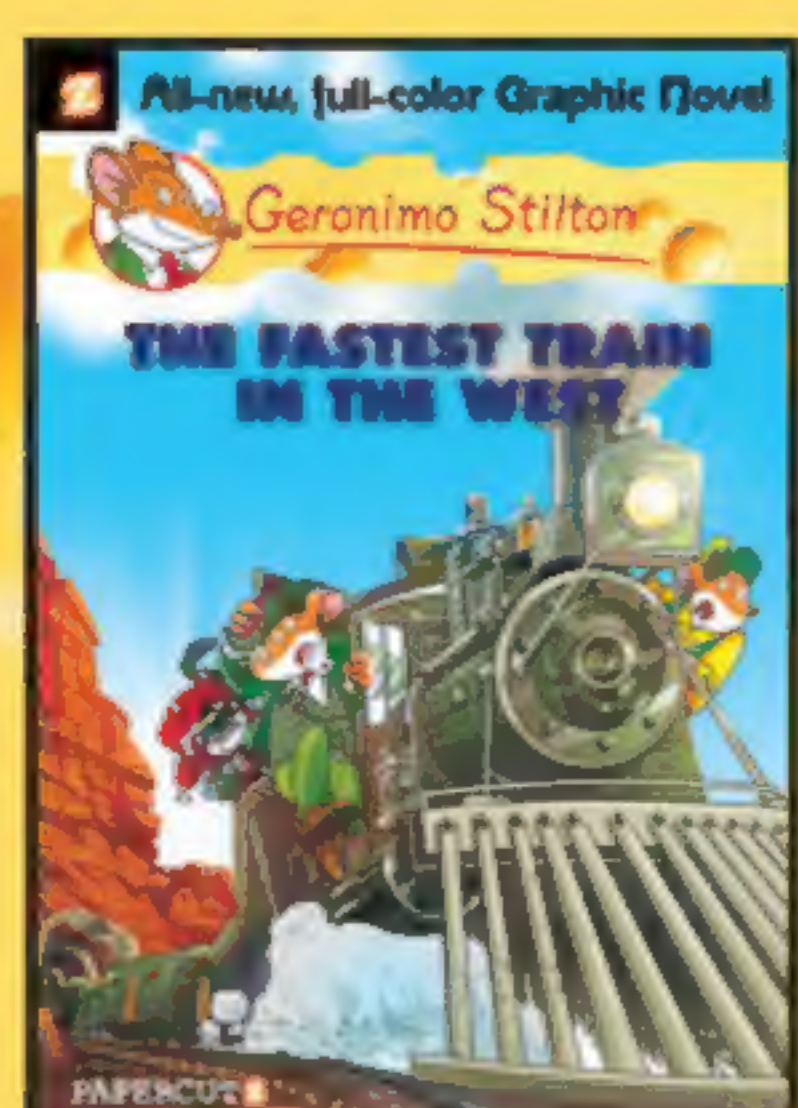
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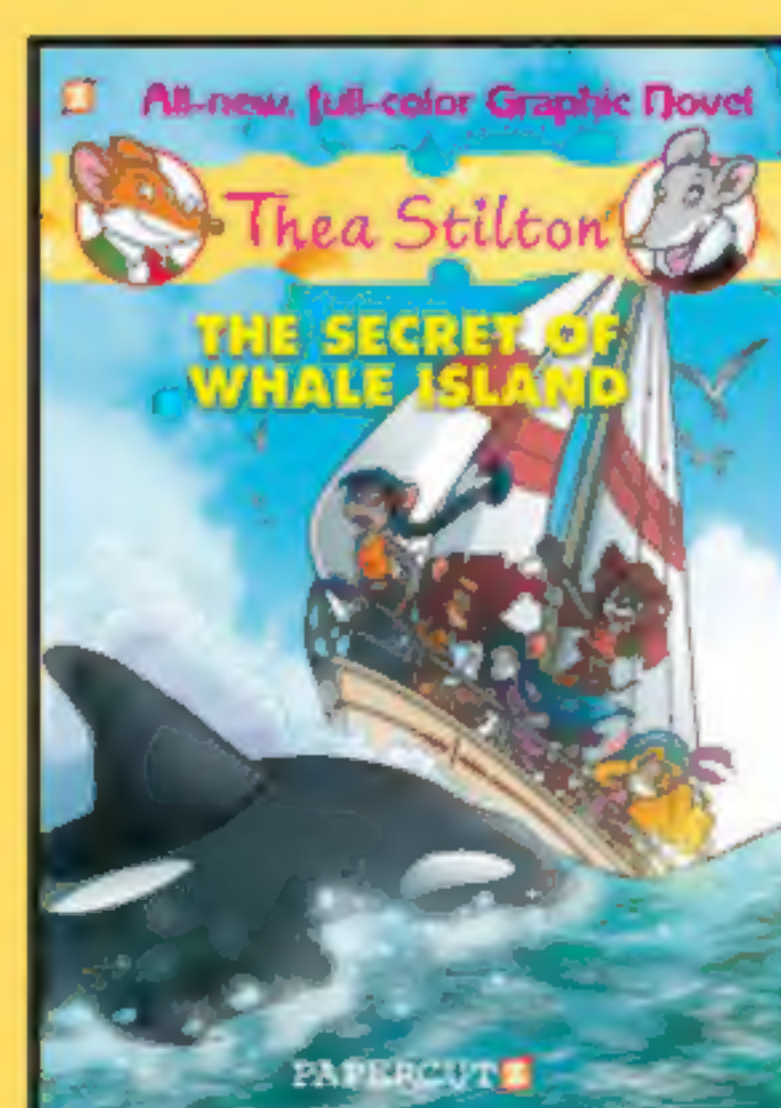
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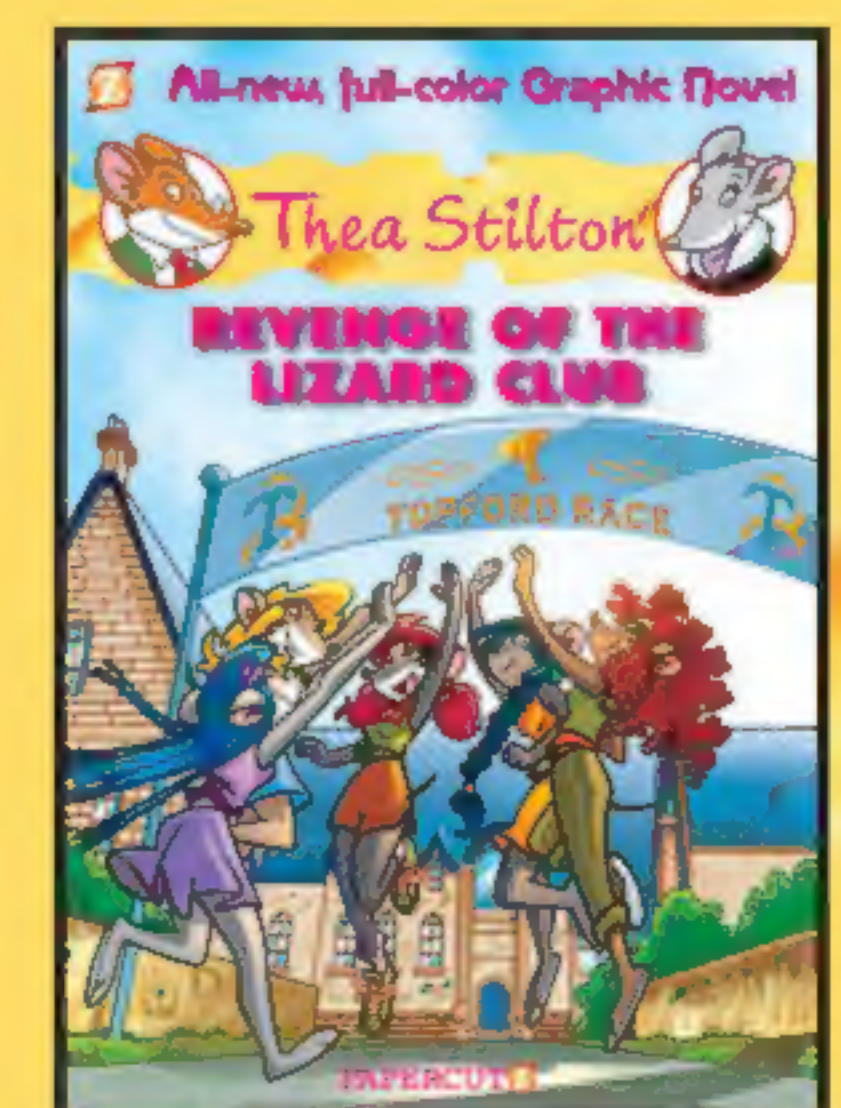
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# Geronimo Stilton

## **THE FASTEST TRAIN IN THE WEST**

**By Geronimo Stilton**



**PAPERCUT**  <sup>TM</sup>  
NEW YORK



THE FASTEST TRAIN IN THE WEST

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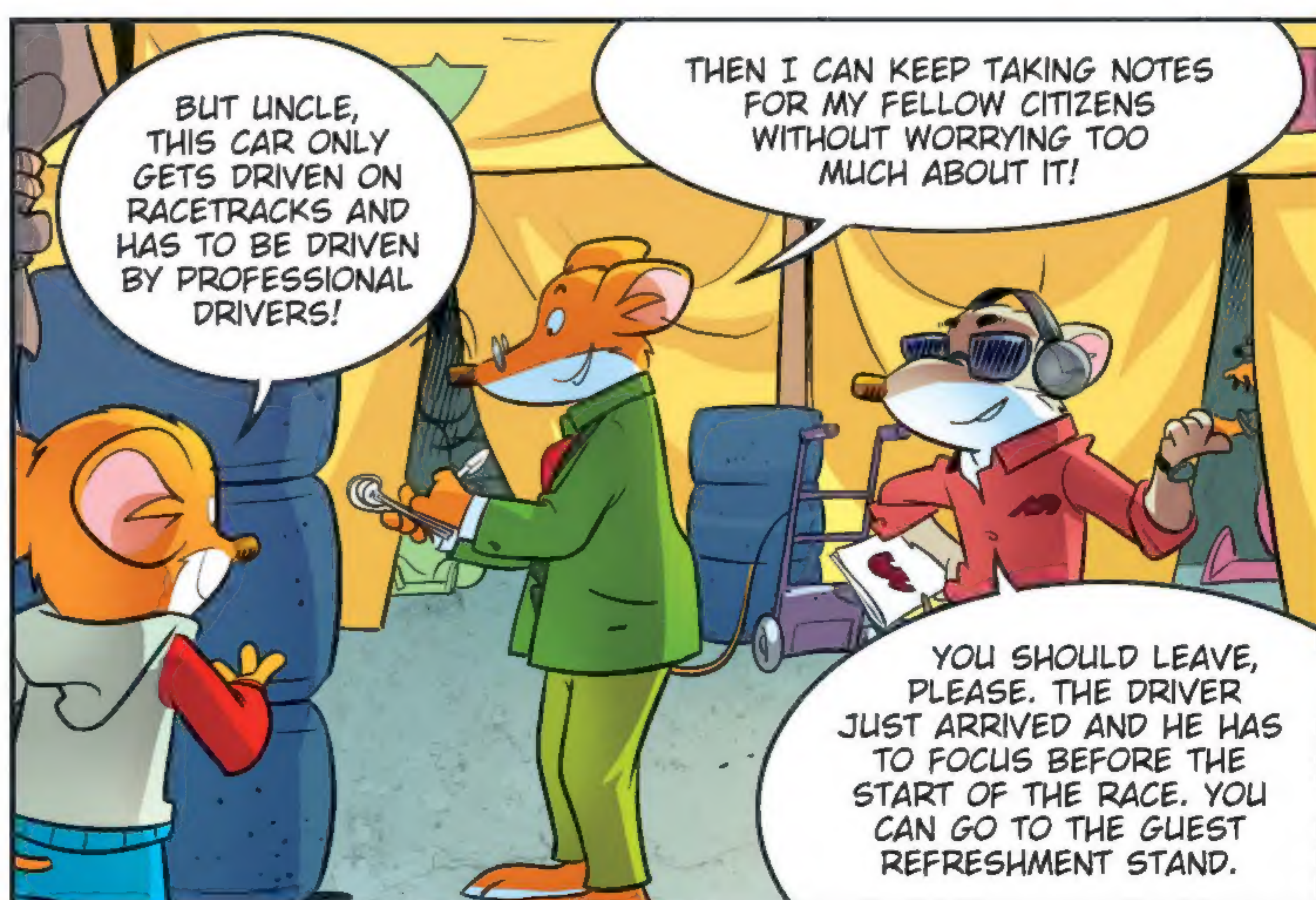
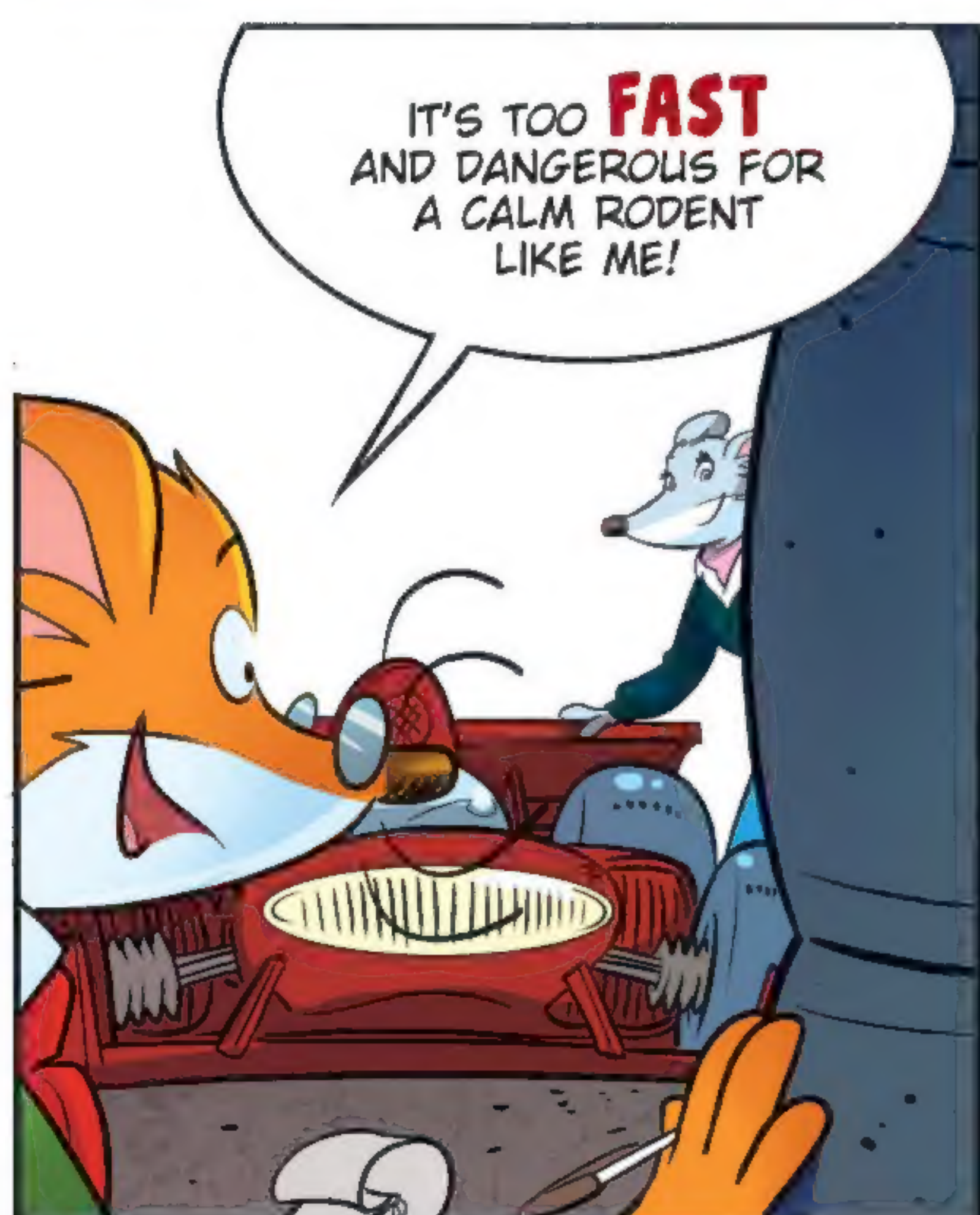
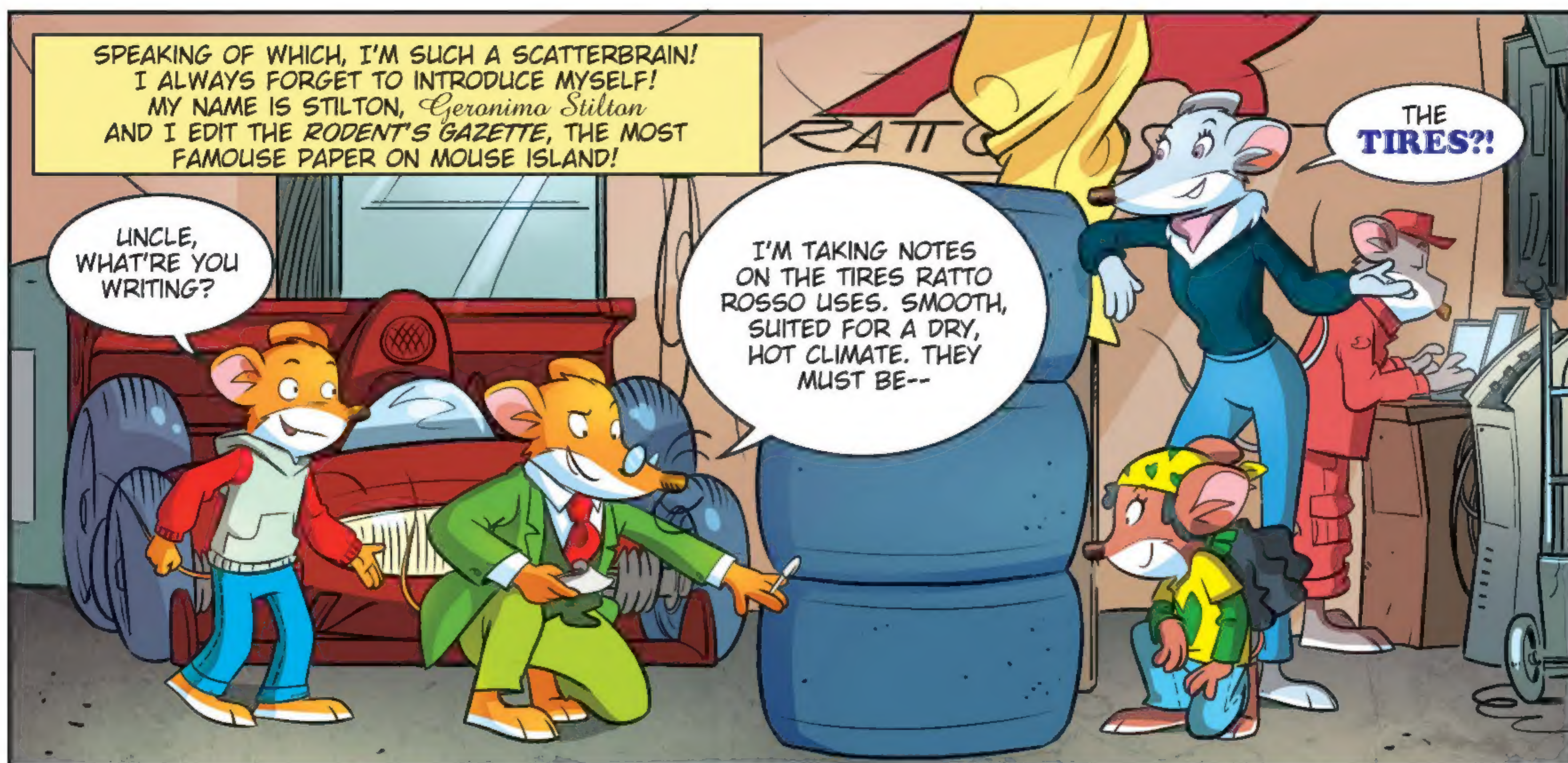
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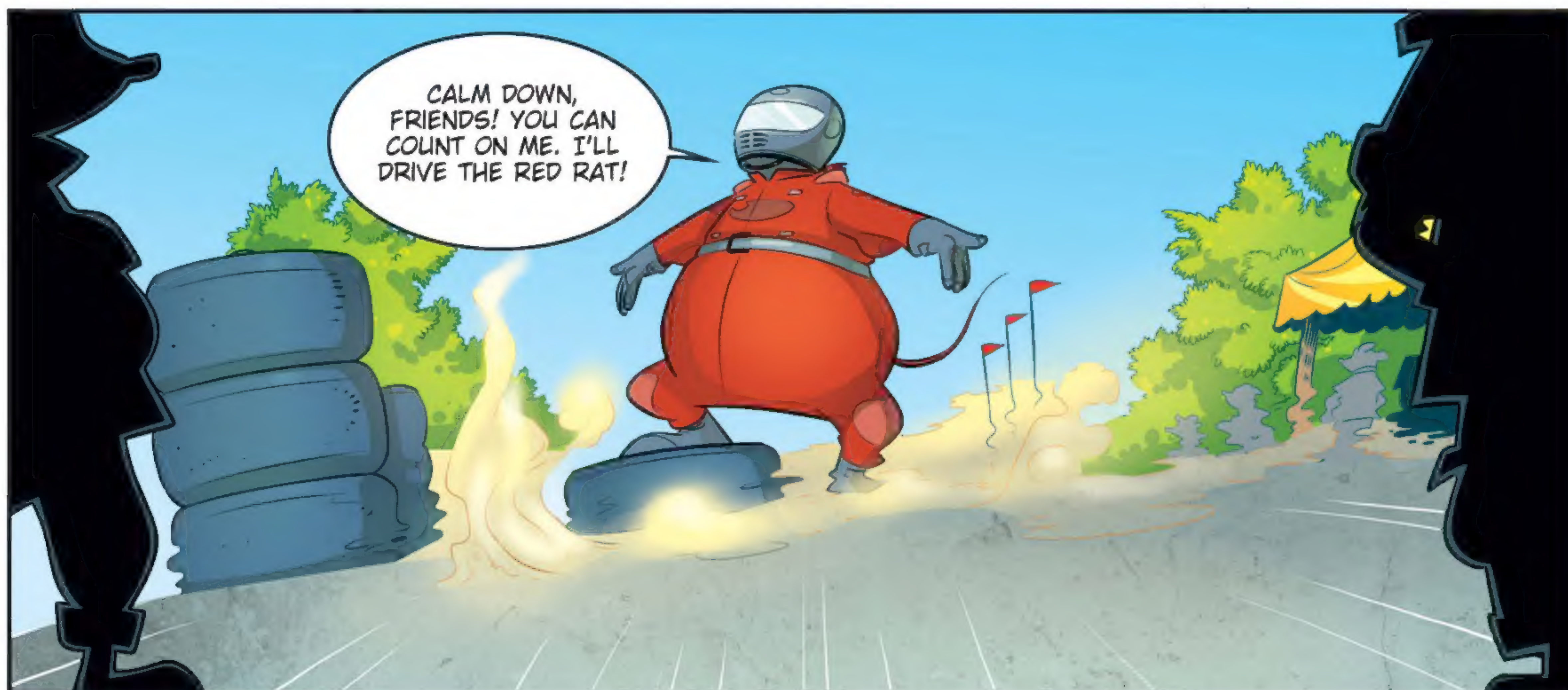




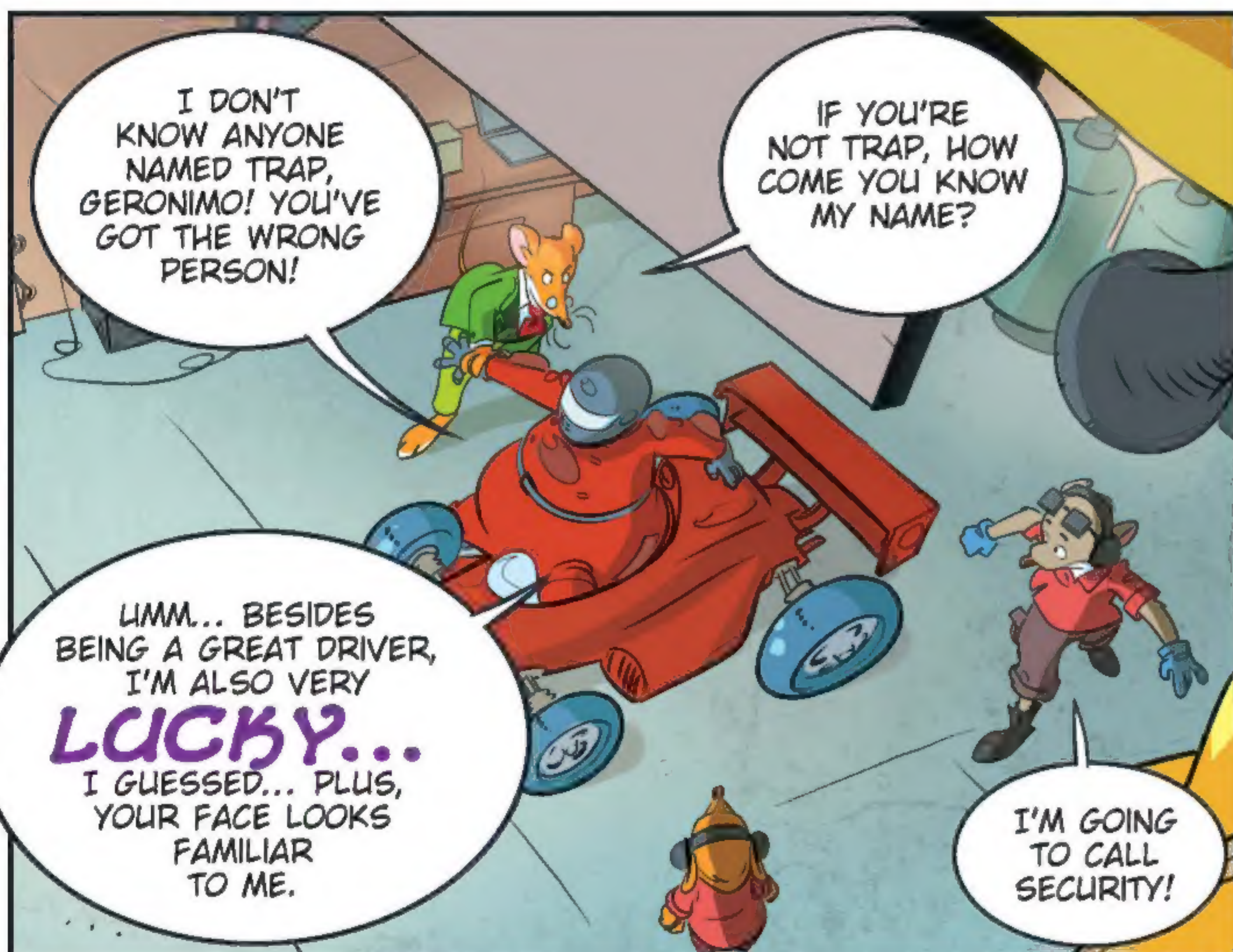




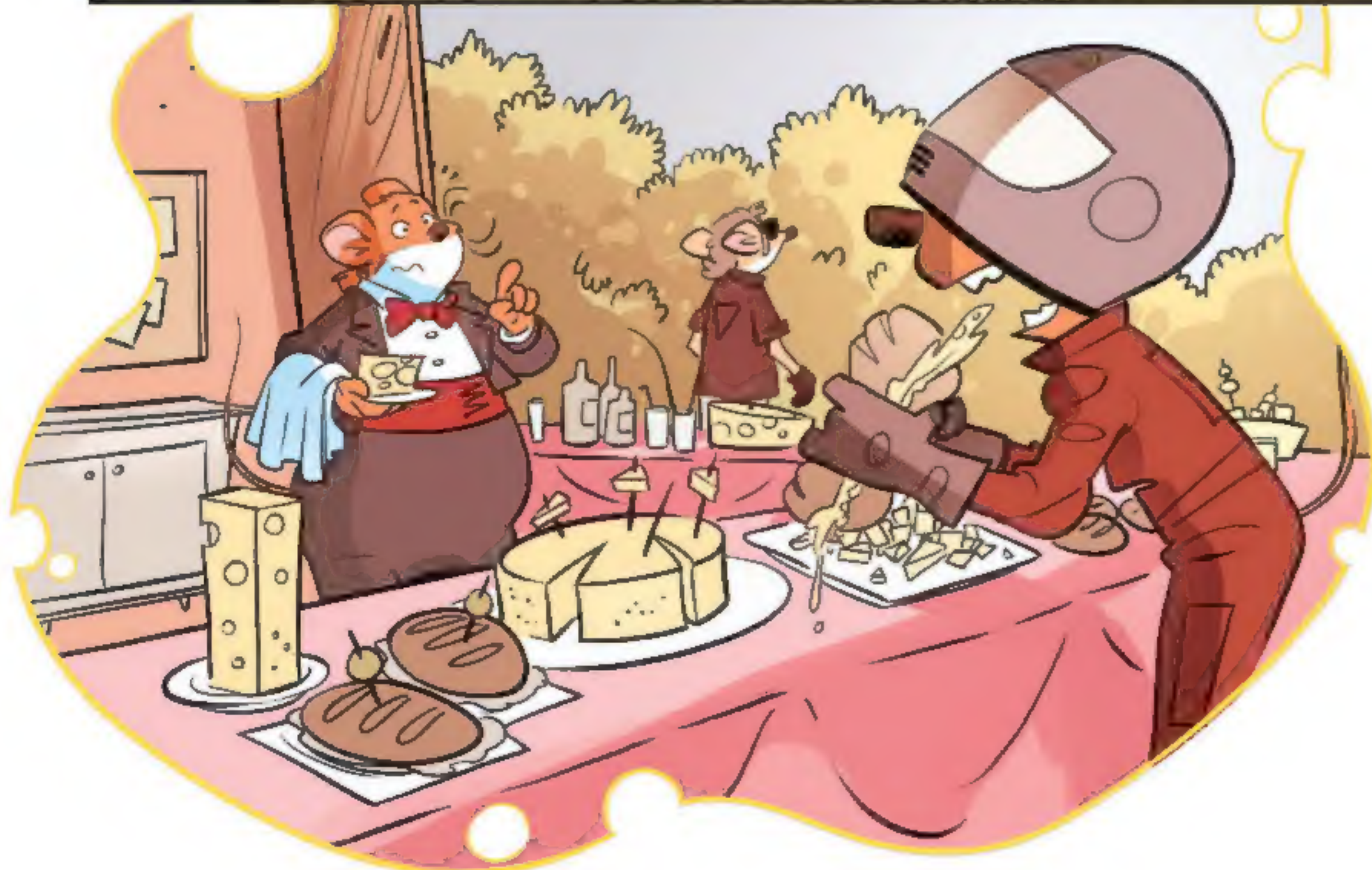




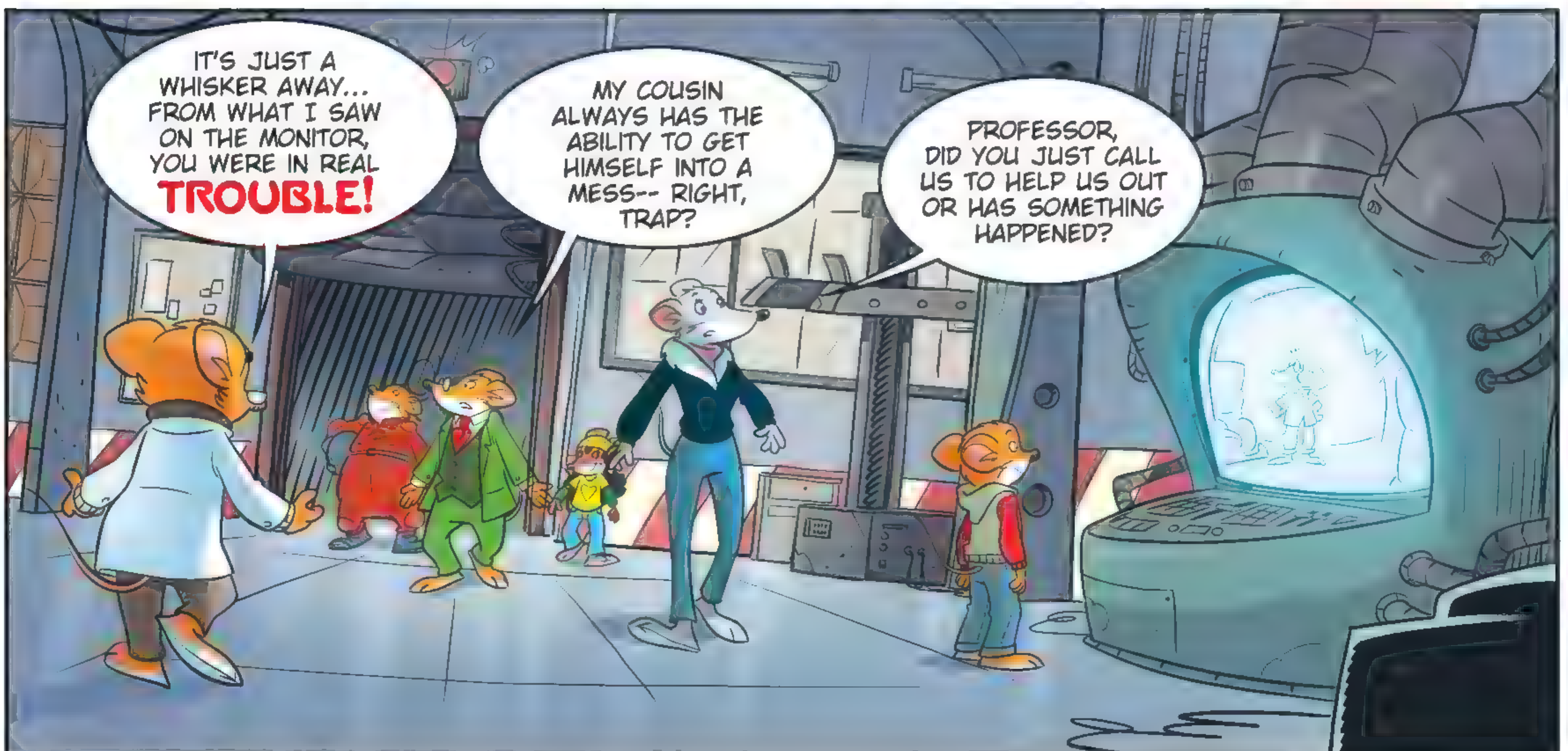
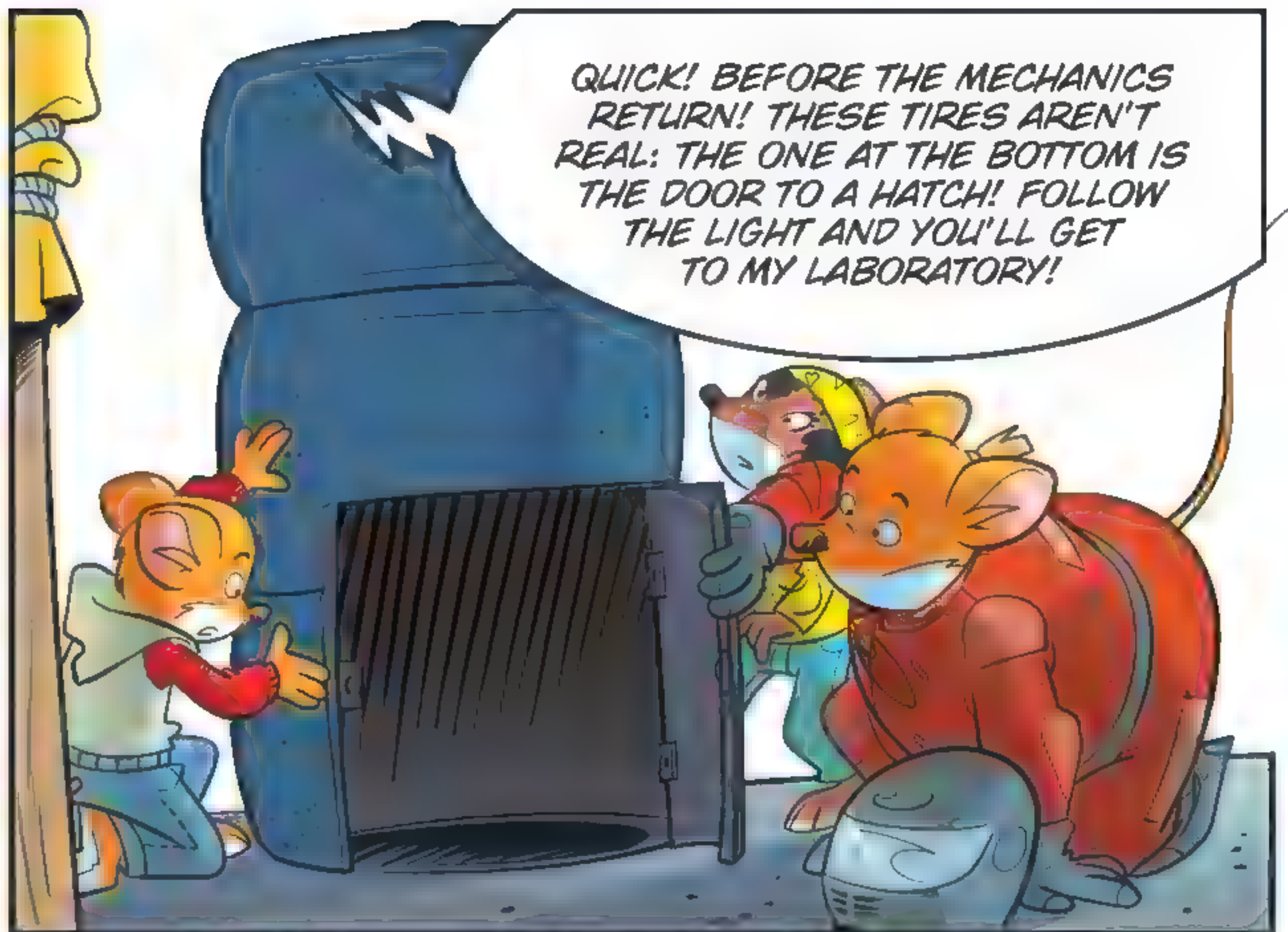




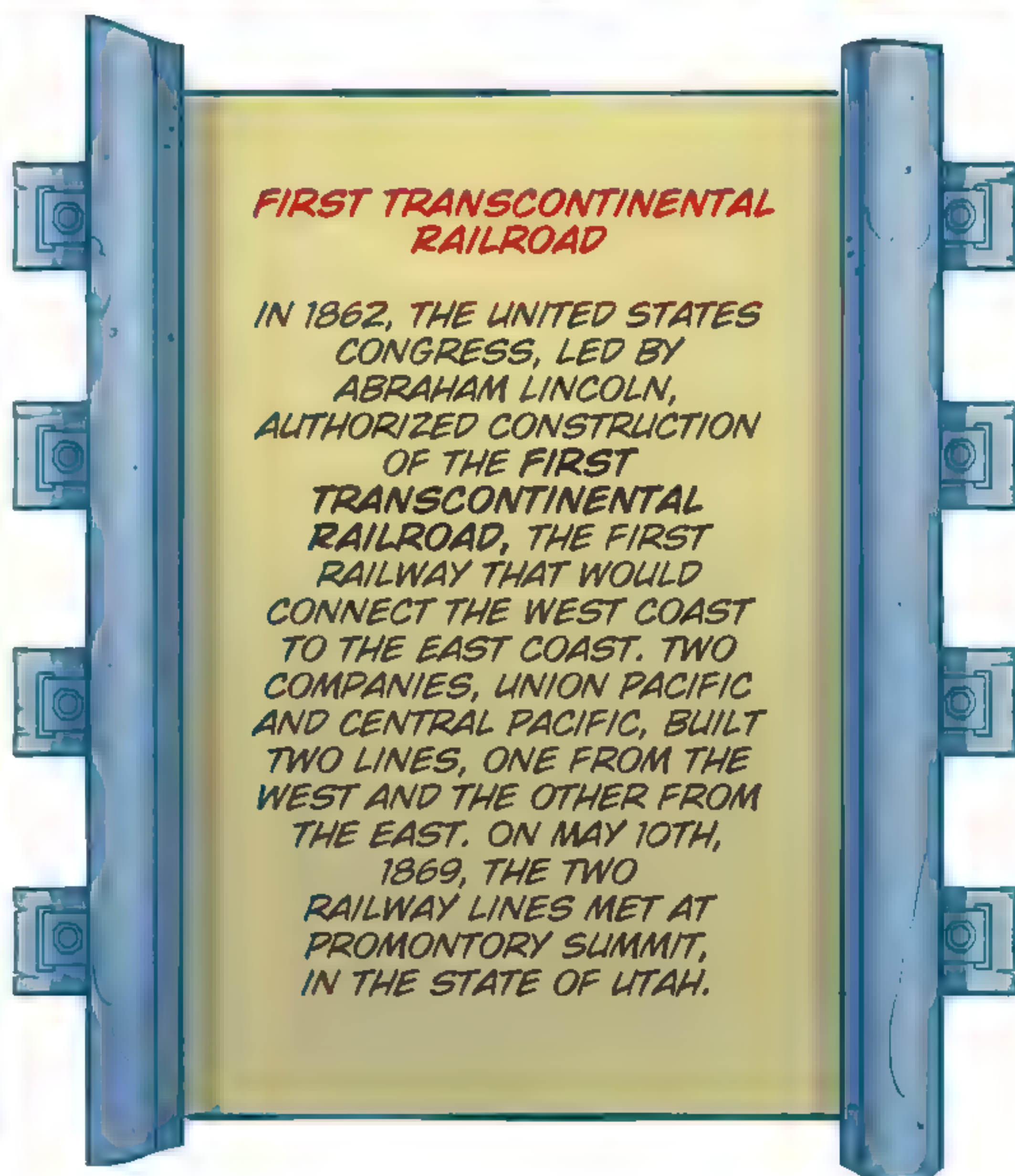
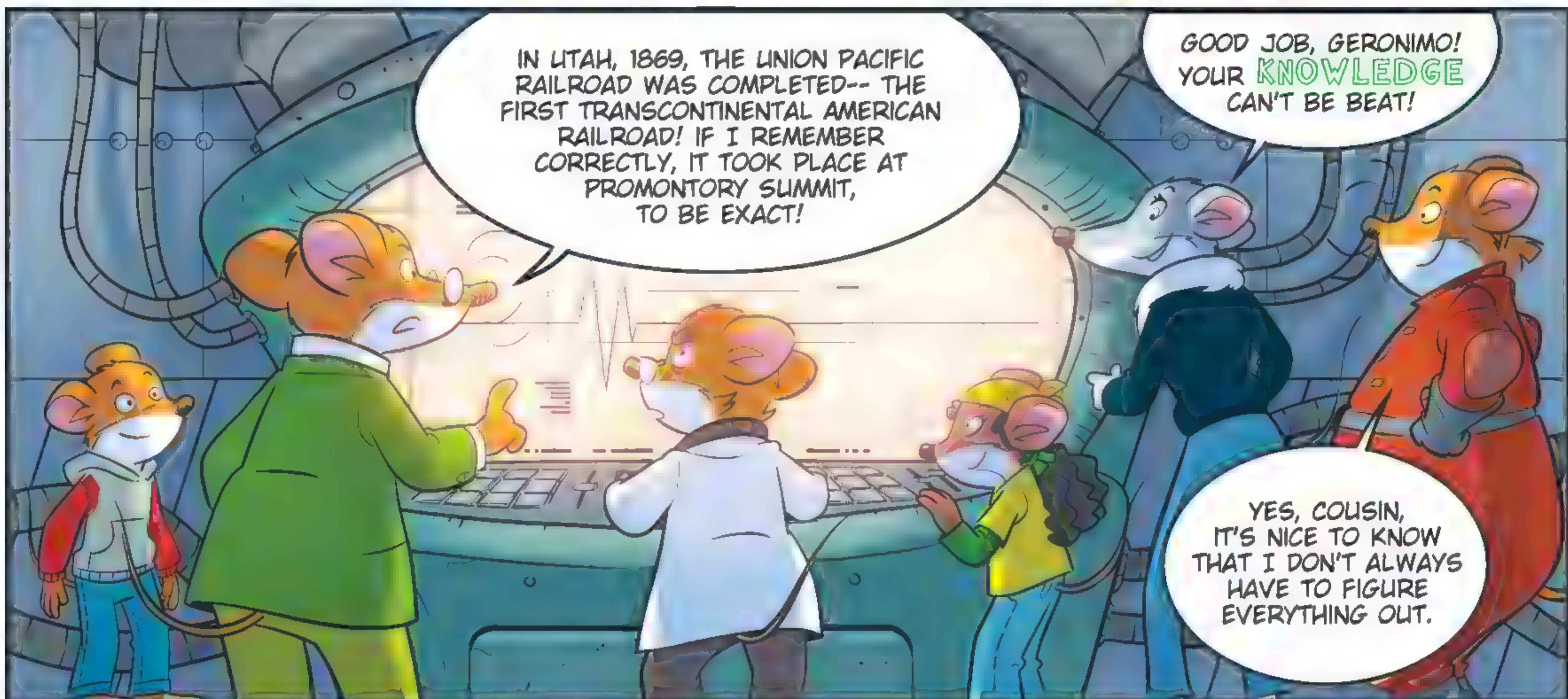
I WAS WORKING AT THE BUFFET IN THE REFRESHMENT STAND, WHEN CORSER GOT MY SNACK CONFUSED WITH HIS MEAL. BUT NOT EVERYONE HAS A FLUR-LINED STOMACH LIKE MINE... AND SO NOW HE'S GOT A BELLYACHE...



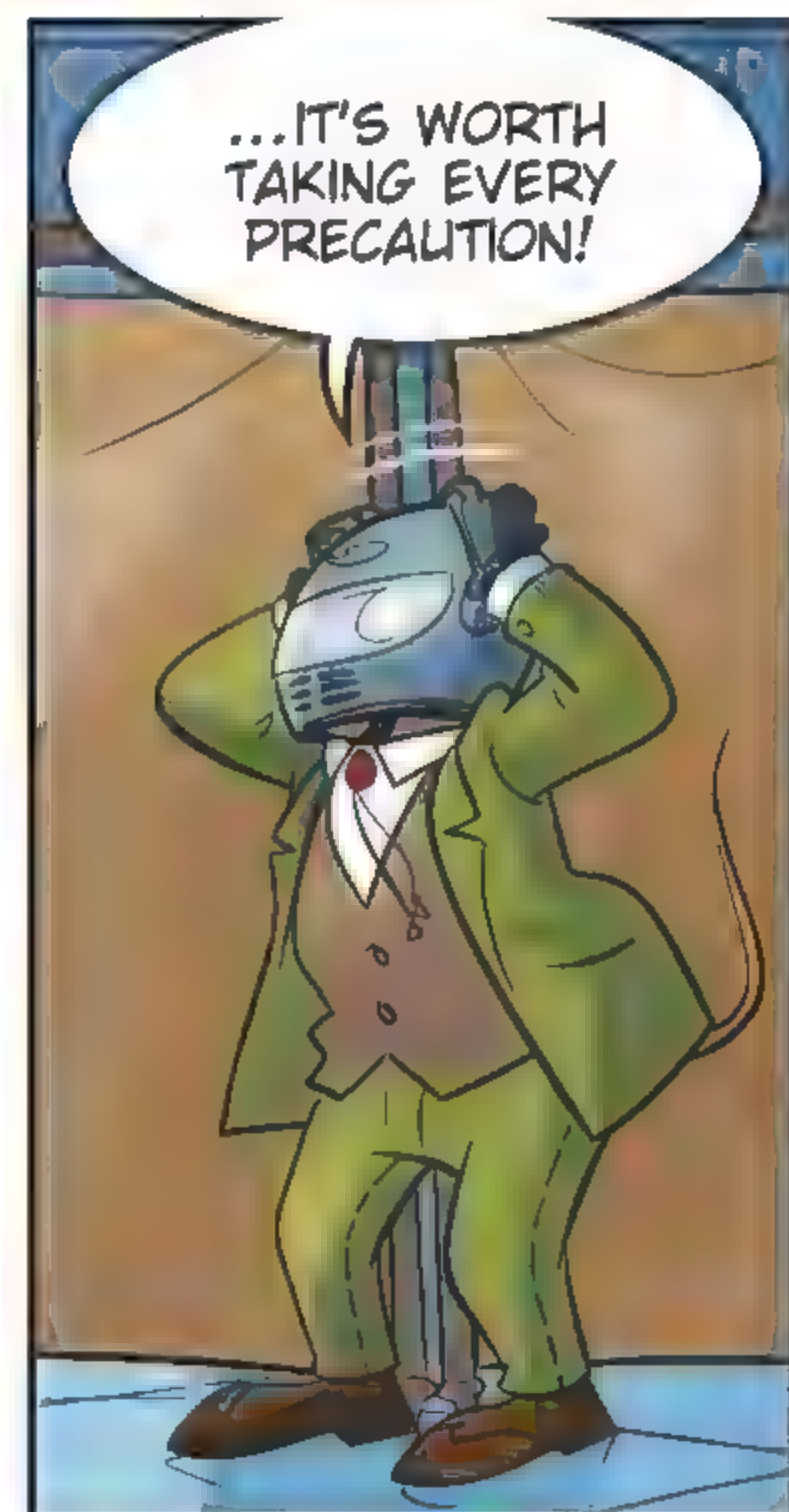
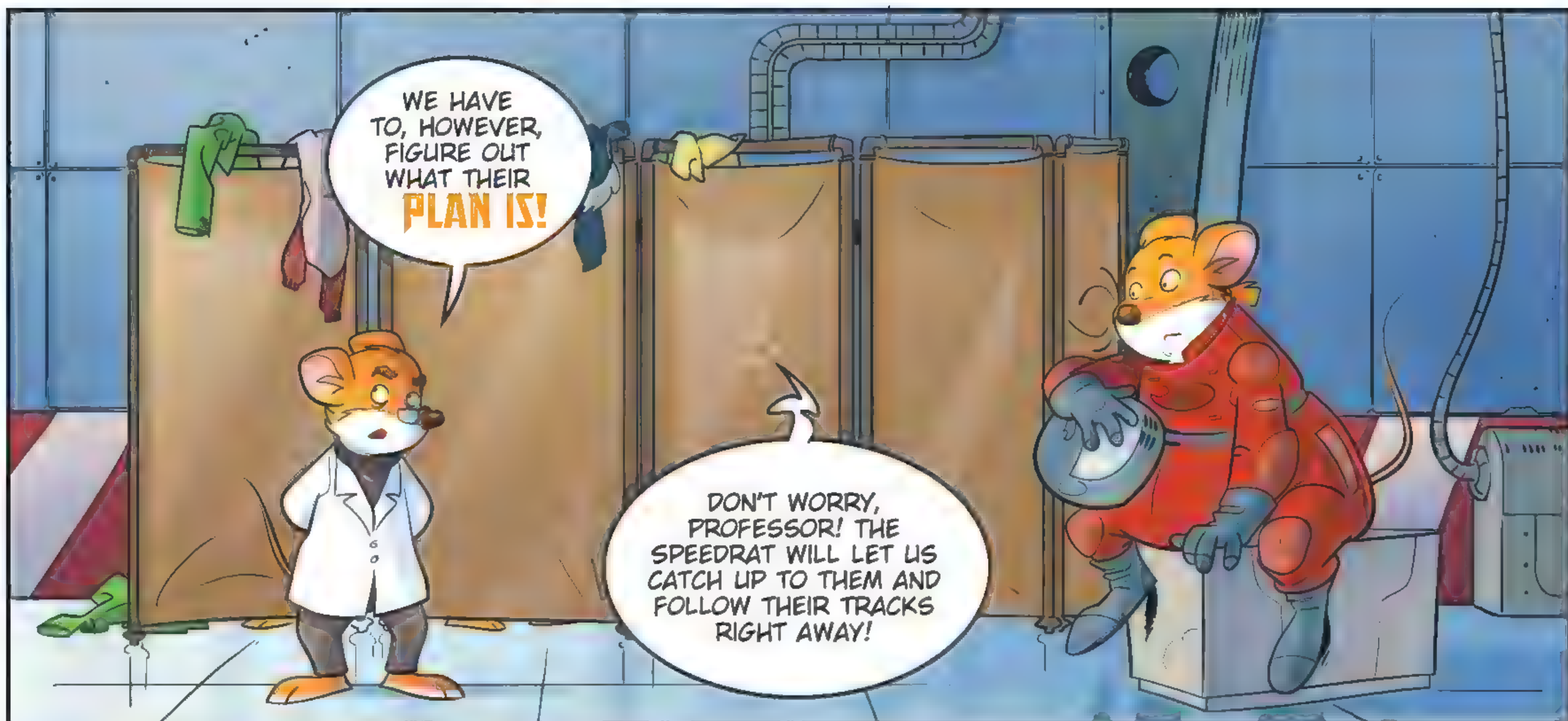














MEANWHILE, THE PIRATE CATS HAD  
ALREADY JOINED THE LABORERS  
BUILDING THE RAILROAD ON THE  
LINE COMING FROM THE EAST.

I HOPE IT  
DOESN'T **RAIN**  
TOMORROW! THE WORK  
ON THE TUNNEL IS  
VERY COMPLICATED!

→AHEM!←

WHAT DO YOU  
SAY, FRIEND? WANT  
A BITE OF CHEESE  
BEFORE GOING  
TO BED?

UM, NO... I'M  
SO TIRED I'D  
RATHER GO TO  
BED RIGHT AWAY  
WITHOUT EATING...

I KNOW  
HOW YOU  
FEEL!

WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON?!

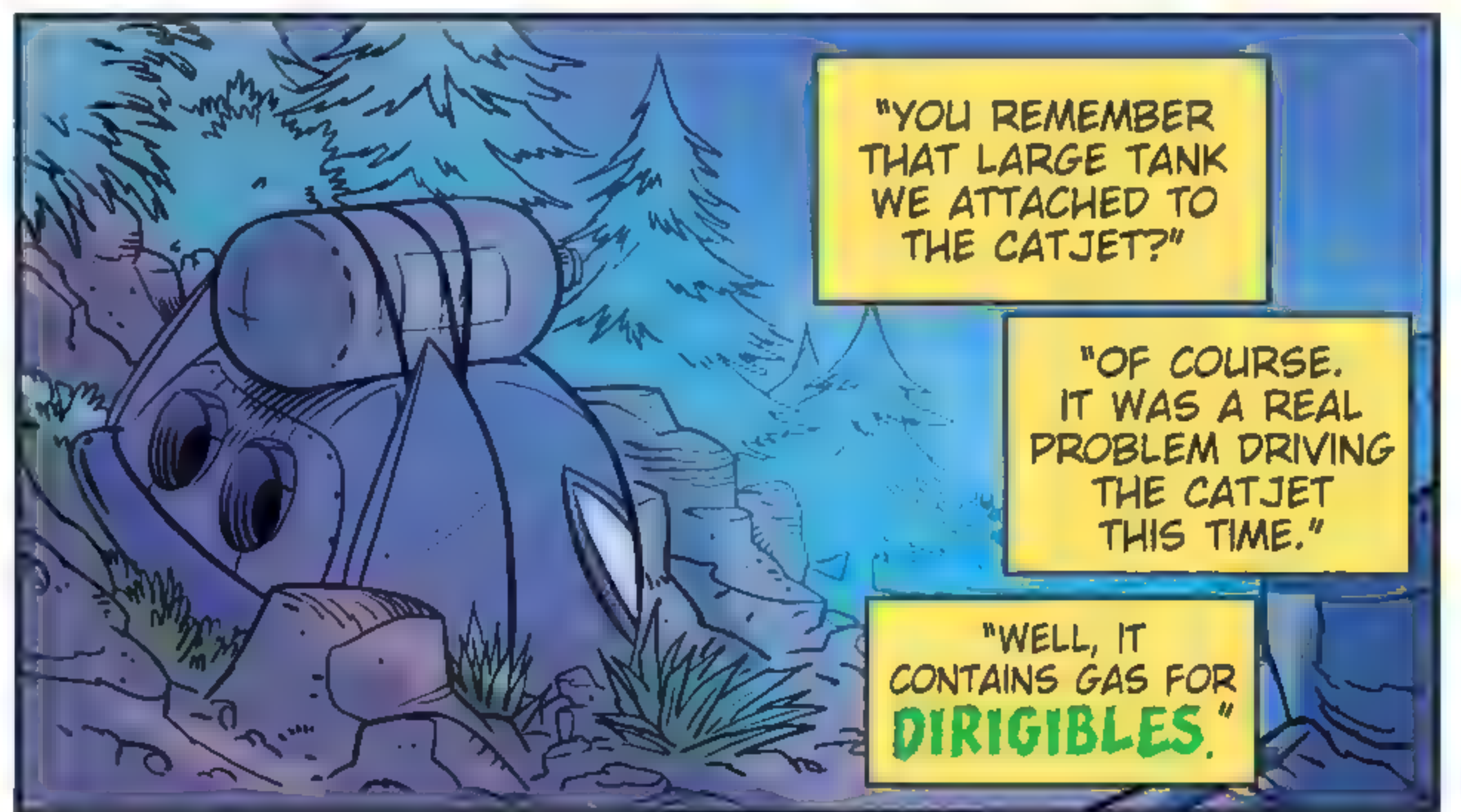




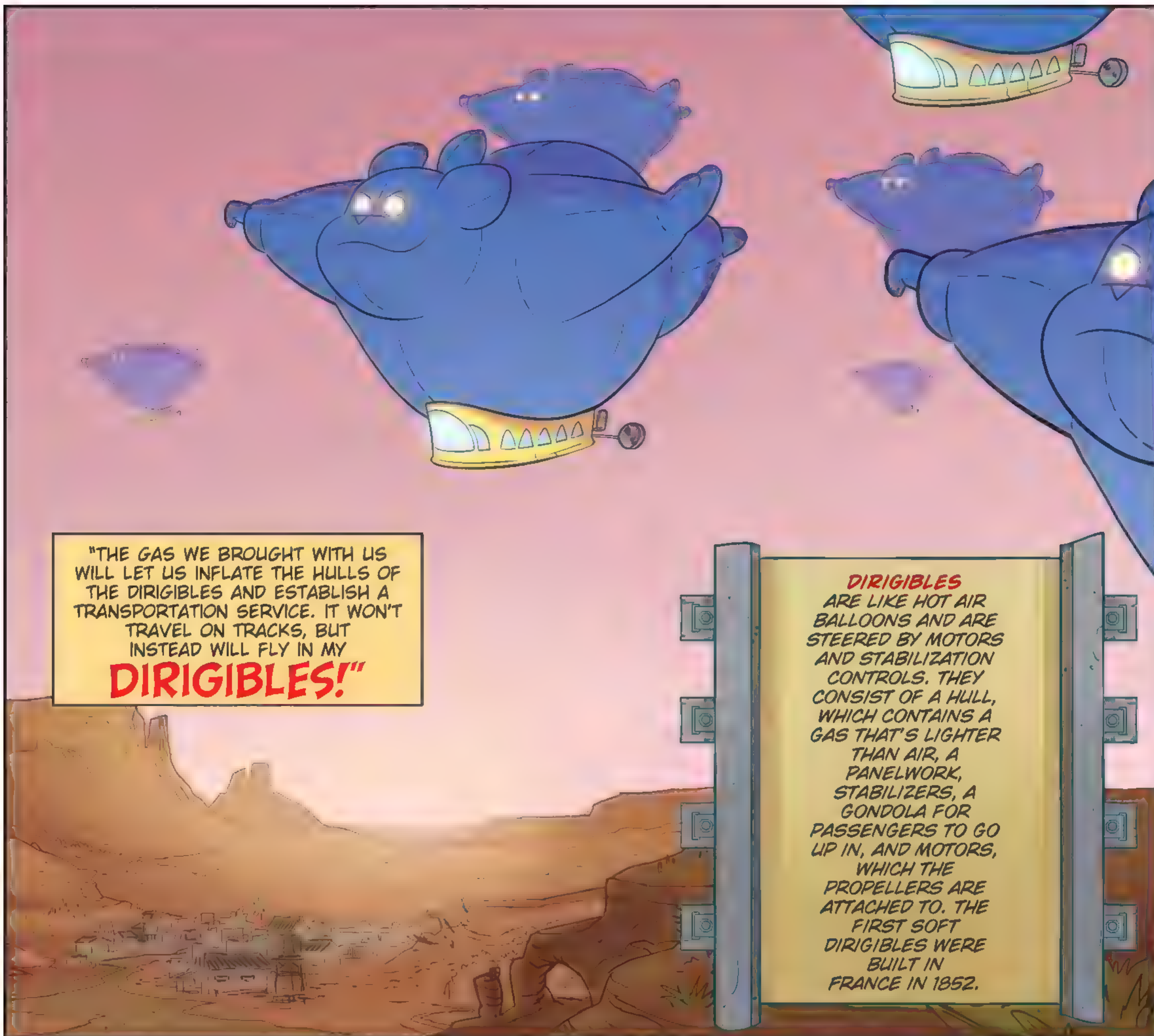






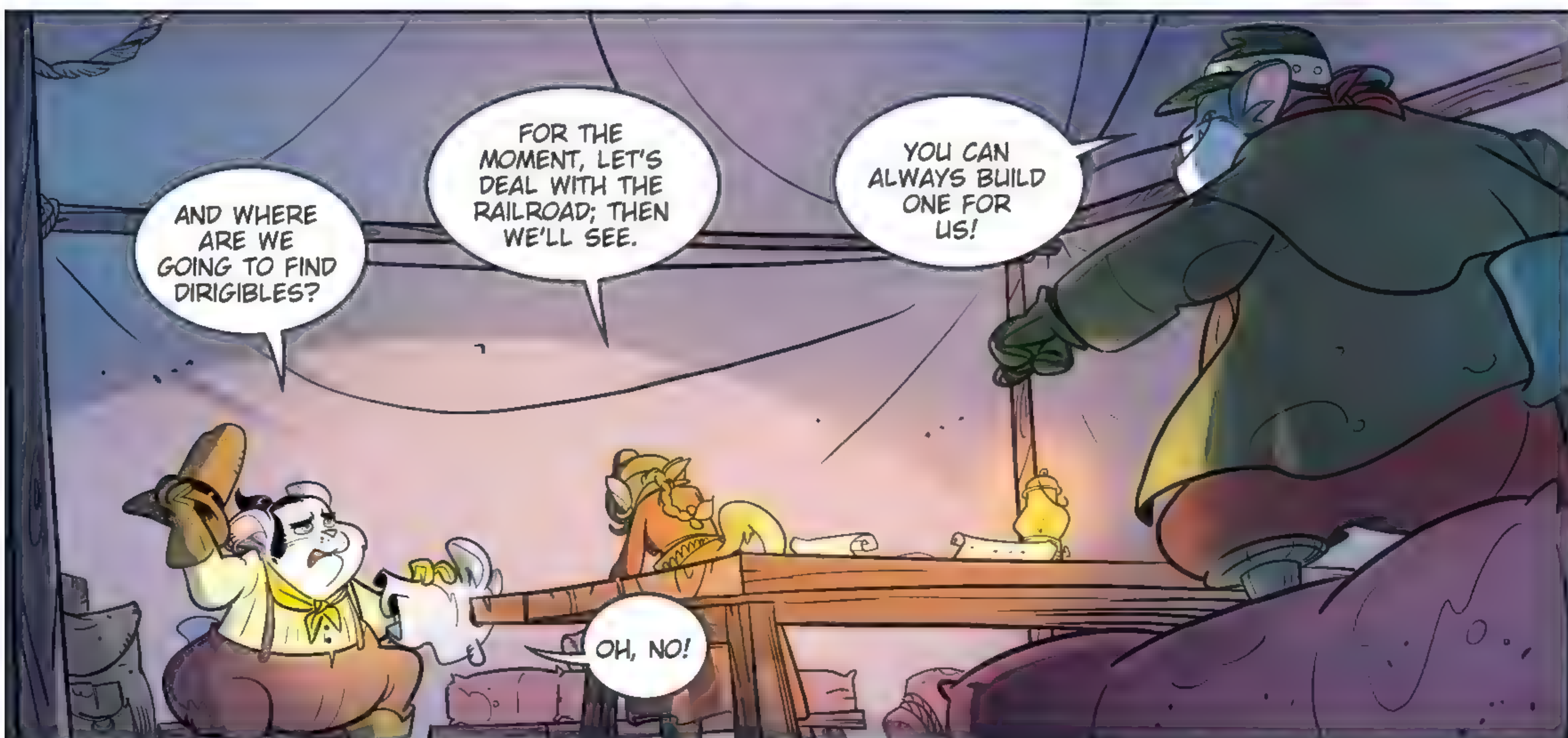






"THE GAS WE BROUGHT WITH US  
WILL LET US INFLATE THE HULLS OF  
THE DIRIGIBLES AND ESTABLISH A  
TRANSPORTATION SERVICE. IT WON'T  
TRAVEL ON TRACKS, BUT  
INSTEAD WILL FLY IN MY  
**DIRIGIBLES!"**

**DIRIGIBLES**  
ARE LIKE HOT AIR  
BALLOONS AND ARE  
STEERED BY MOTORS  
AND STABILIZATION  
CONTROLS. THEY  
CONSIST OF A HULL,  
WHICH CONTAINS A  
GAS THAT'S LIGHTER  
THAN AIR, A  
PANELWORK,  
STABILIZERS, A  
GONDOLA FOR  
PASSENGERS TO GO  
UP IN, AND MOTORS,  
WHICH THE  
PROPELLERS ARE  
ATTACHED TO. THE  
FIRST SOFT  
DIRIGIBLES WERE  
BUILT IN  
FRANCE IN 1852.



AND WHERE  
ARE WE  
GOING TO FIND  
DIRIGIBLES?

FOR THE  
MOMENT, LET'S  
DEAL WITH THE  
RAILROAD; THEN  
WE'LL SEE.

YOU CAN  
ALWAYS BUILD  
ONE FOR  
US!

OH, NO!



IN THE MEANTIME, WE'D ARRIVED IN 1869,  
BUT THE SITUATION WASN'T SO SIMPLE...

TRAP, TELL  
ME WHY YOU  
BROUGHT US TO  
THE MIDDLE OF THE  
**DESERT?**

I PUT IN  
THE COORDINATES  
THAT PROF. VON  
VOLT GAVE ME,  
COUSIN. IT'S NOT  
MY FAULT!

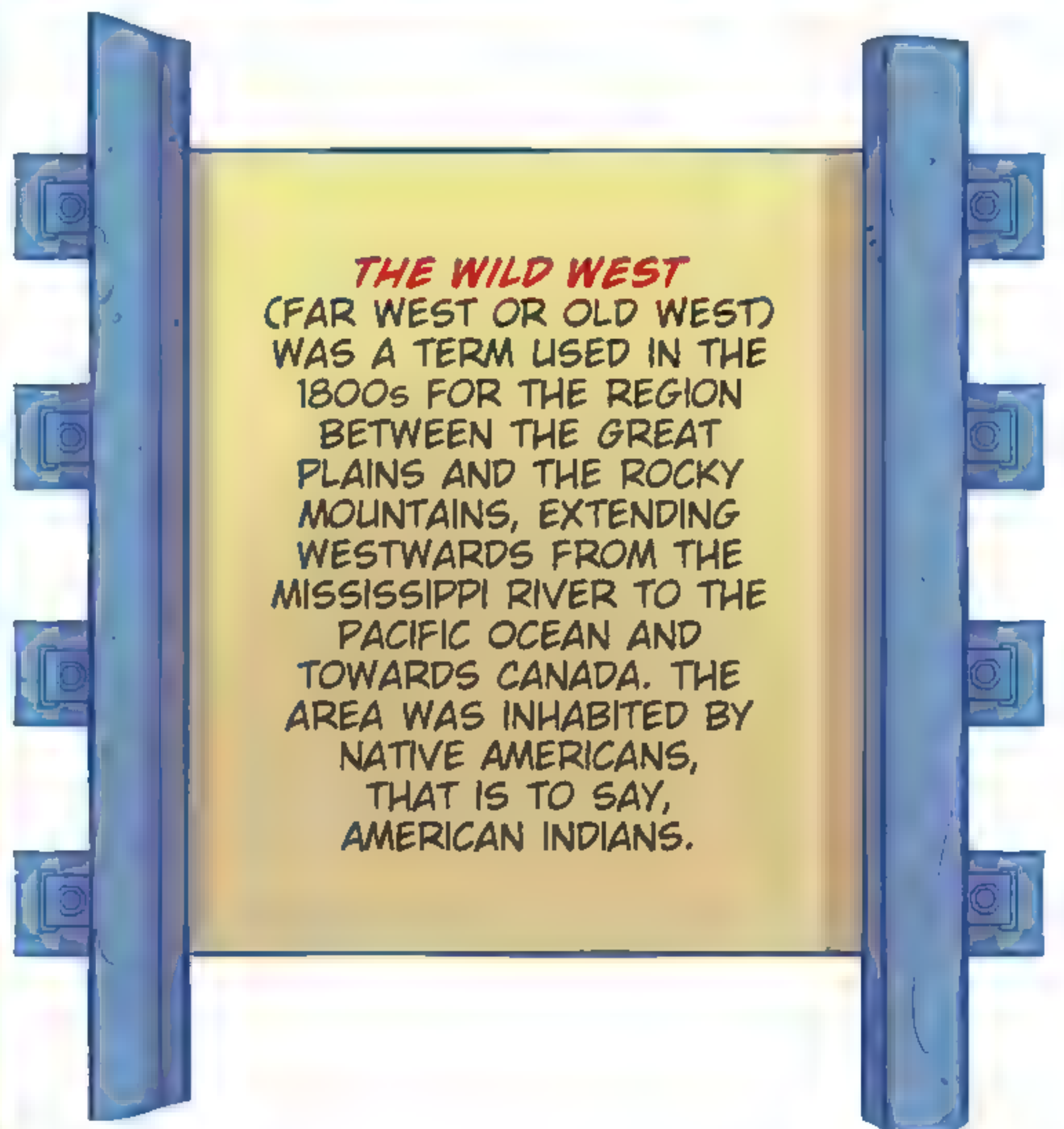
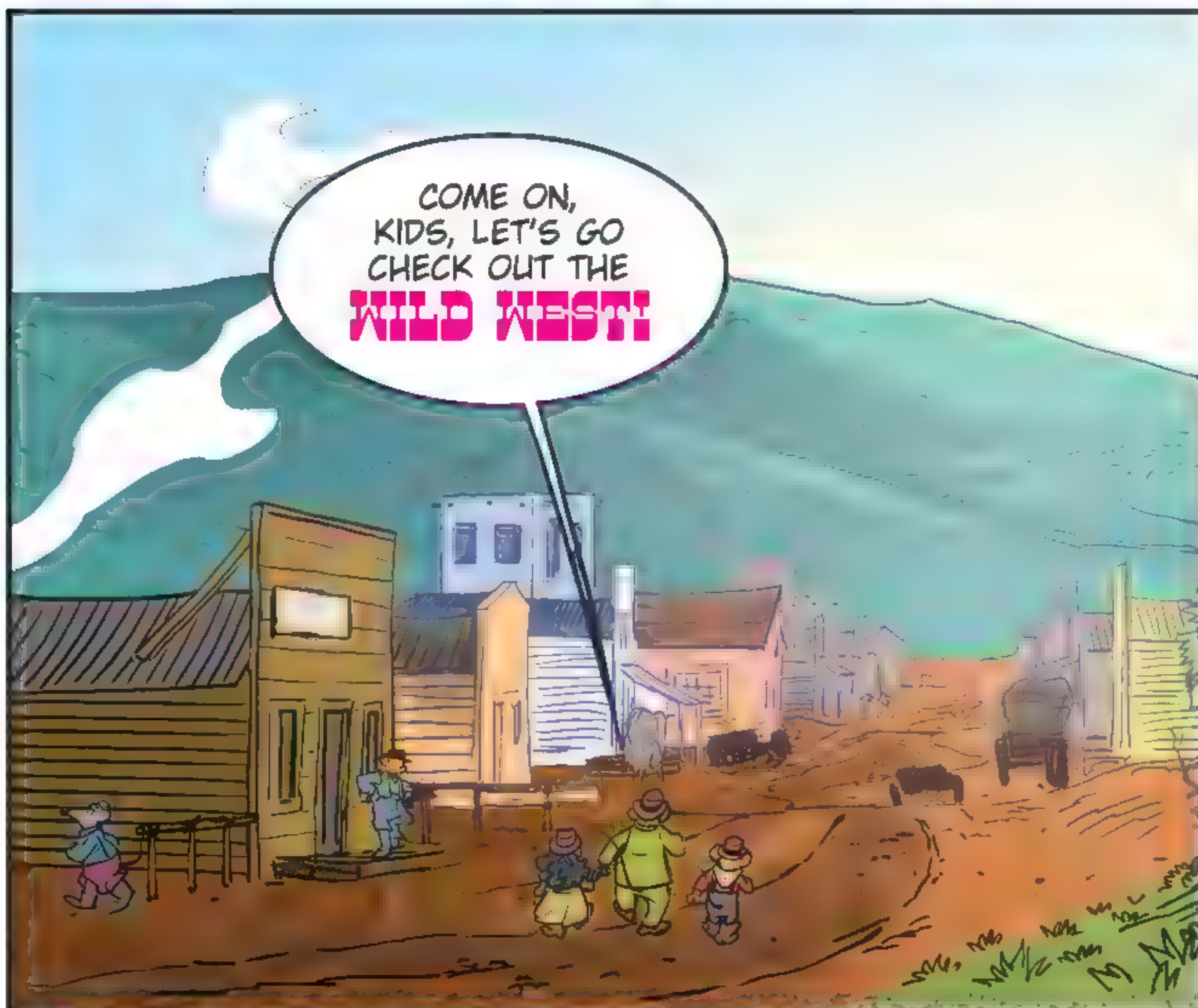
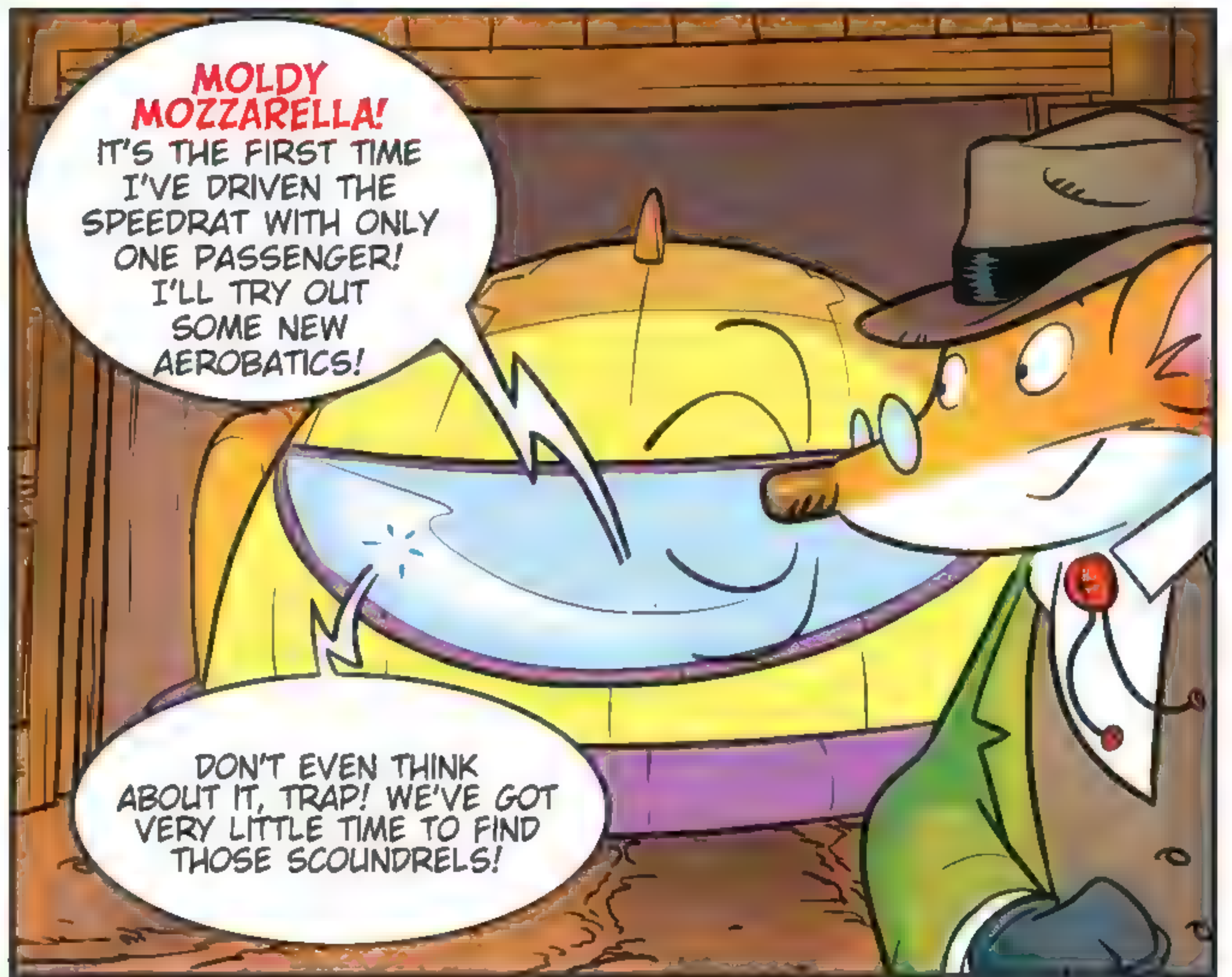
OF  
COURSE  
NOT.















IN THE MEANTIME, TRAP AND THEA HAD REACHED THE CONSTRUCTION SITE FOR THE RAIL LINE THAT WAS HEADING EASTWARDS...



BUT IF WE LEAVE THE SPEEDRAT HERE, HOW WILL WE GET IT BACK? IT'S IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT!

EASY, WE'LL BRING IT WITH US!

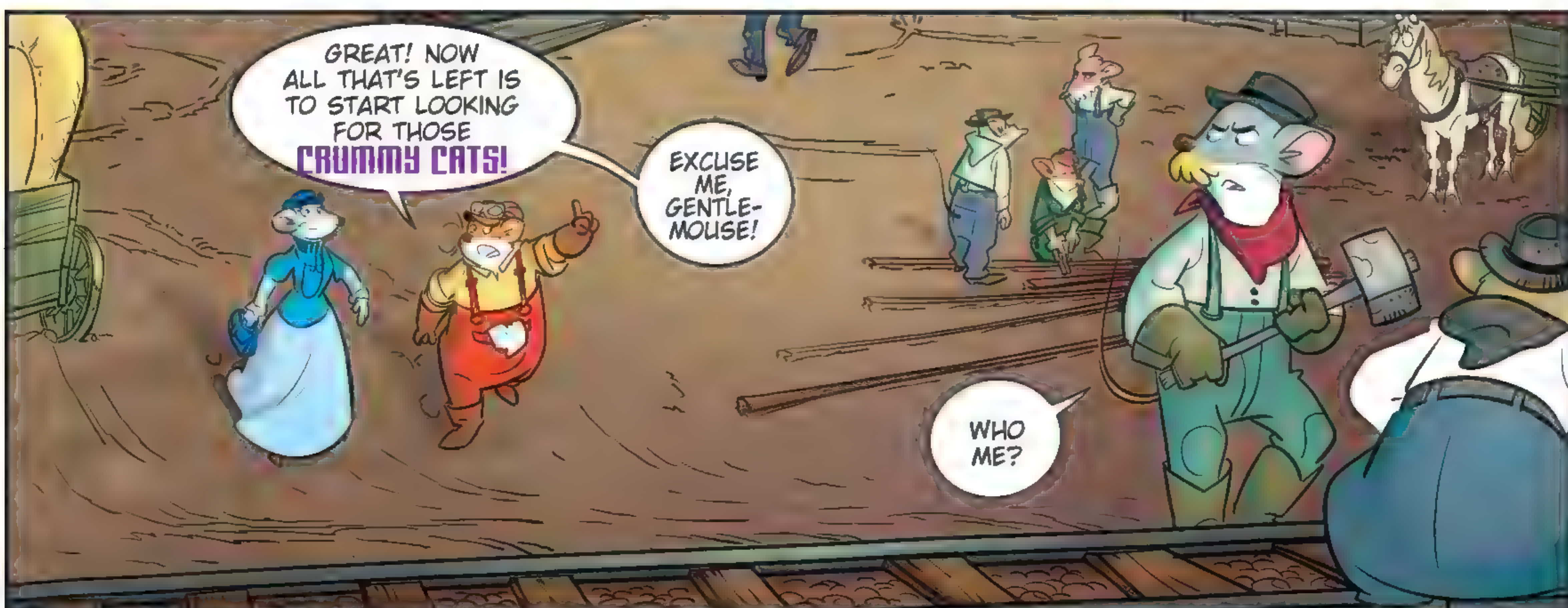


THE WORK SITE MOVES WITH THE WORKERS, SO THE CRATES WON'T REMAIN HERE.

UH, NO?



THEY'LL COME WITH US UNTIL THE WORK IS FINISHED. IT'S ENOUGH TO PROVIDE EXACT INFORMATION. THIS CRATE WILL BE ONE OF THE MANY THAT ARE FOR THE INAUGURATION!

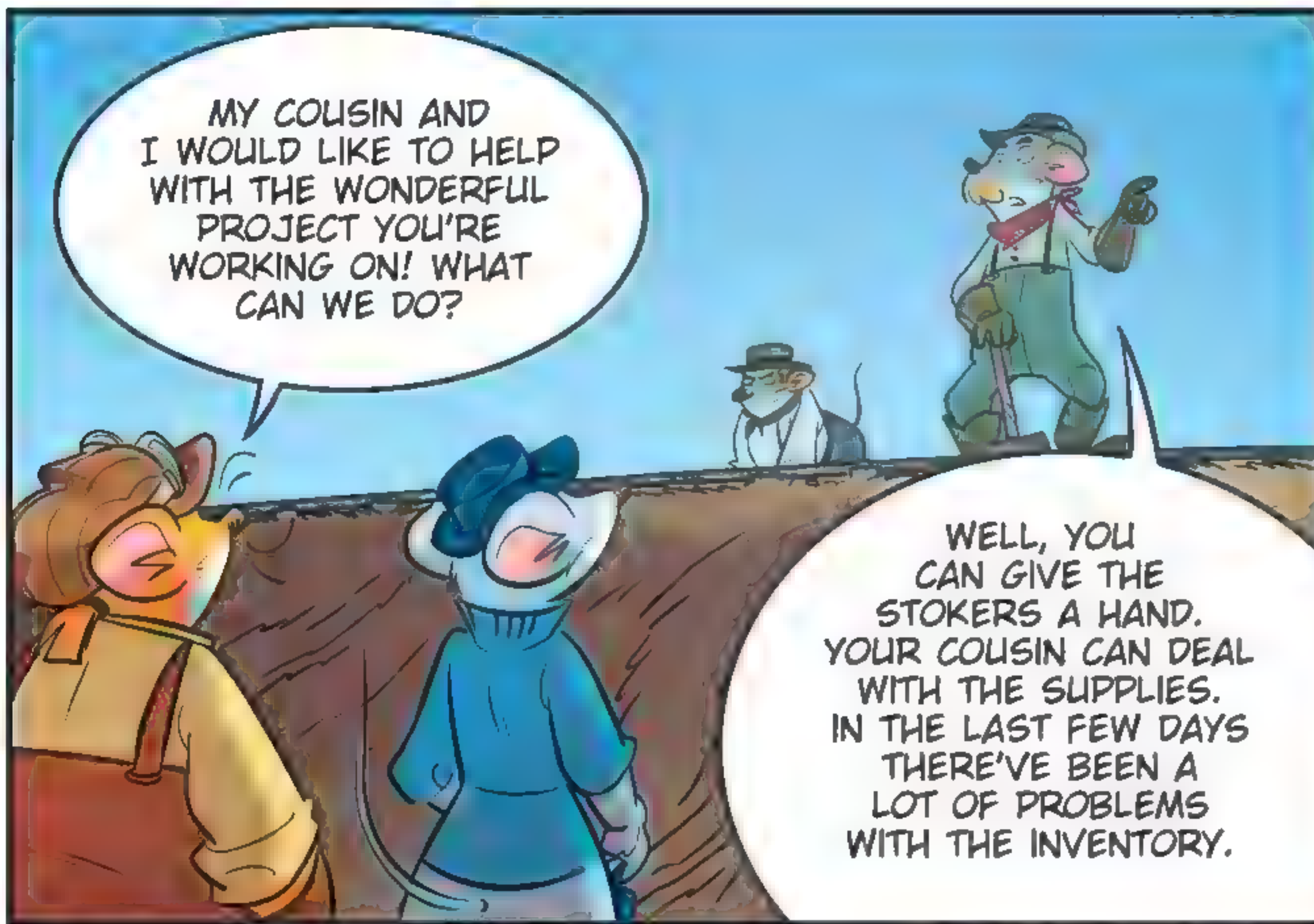


GREAT! NOW ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO START LOOKING FOR THOSE **CRUMMY CATS!**

EXCUSE ME, GENTLE-MOUSE!

WHO ME?





MY COUSIN AND I WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH THE WONDERFUL PROJECT YOU'RE WORKING ON! WHAT CAN WE DO?

WELL, YOU CAN GIVE THE STOKERS A HAND. YOUR COUSIN CAN DEAL WITH THE SUPPLIES. IN THE LAST FEW DAYS THERE'VE BEEN A LOT OF PROBLEMS WITH THE INVENTORY.



WHAT KIND OF PROBLEMS?

THE CRATES SEEM TO HAVE GOTTEN SCRAMBLED. SOMETIMES IT TAKES A WHOLE DAY TO FIND THE PIECES WE NEED.



BETWEEN THESE GLITCHES, THE EXPLOSION IN THE **TUNNEL**, AND THE BAD WEATHER WHEN WE GOT HERE, IT'S NOT FUNNY!



OKAY! WE'LL START LOOKING HERE!

"LOOKING HERE" FOR WHAT?

NO, MY COUSIN MEANT WE'D START LOOKING FOR WORK HERE!

AH!



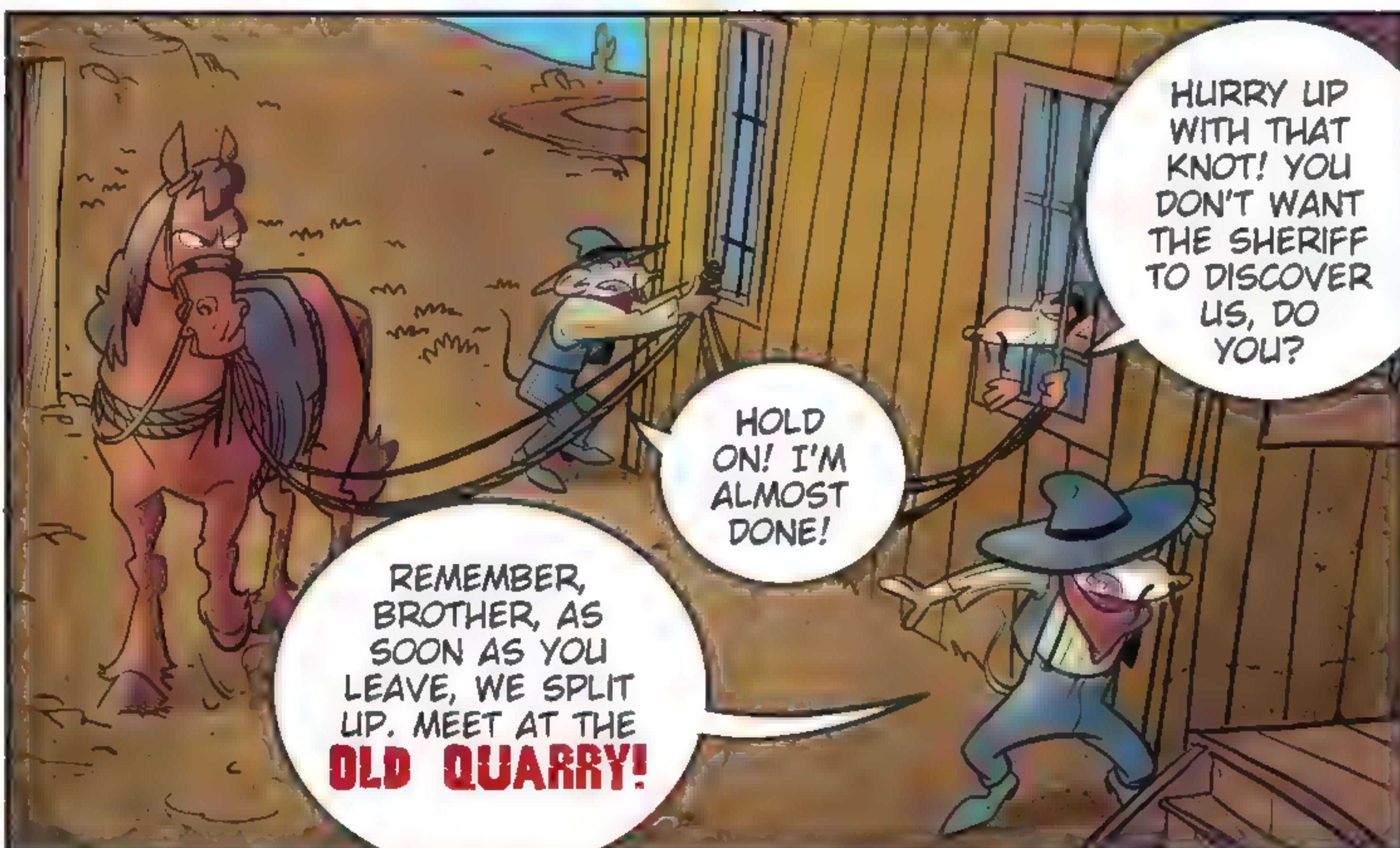
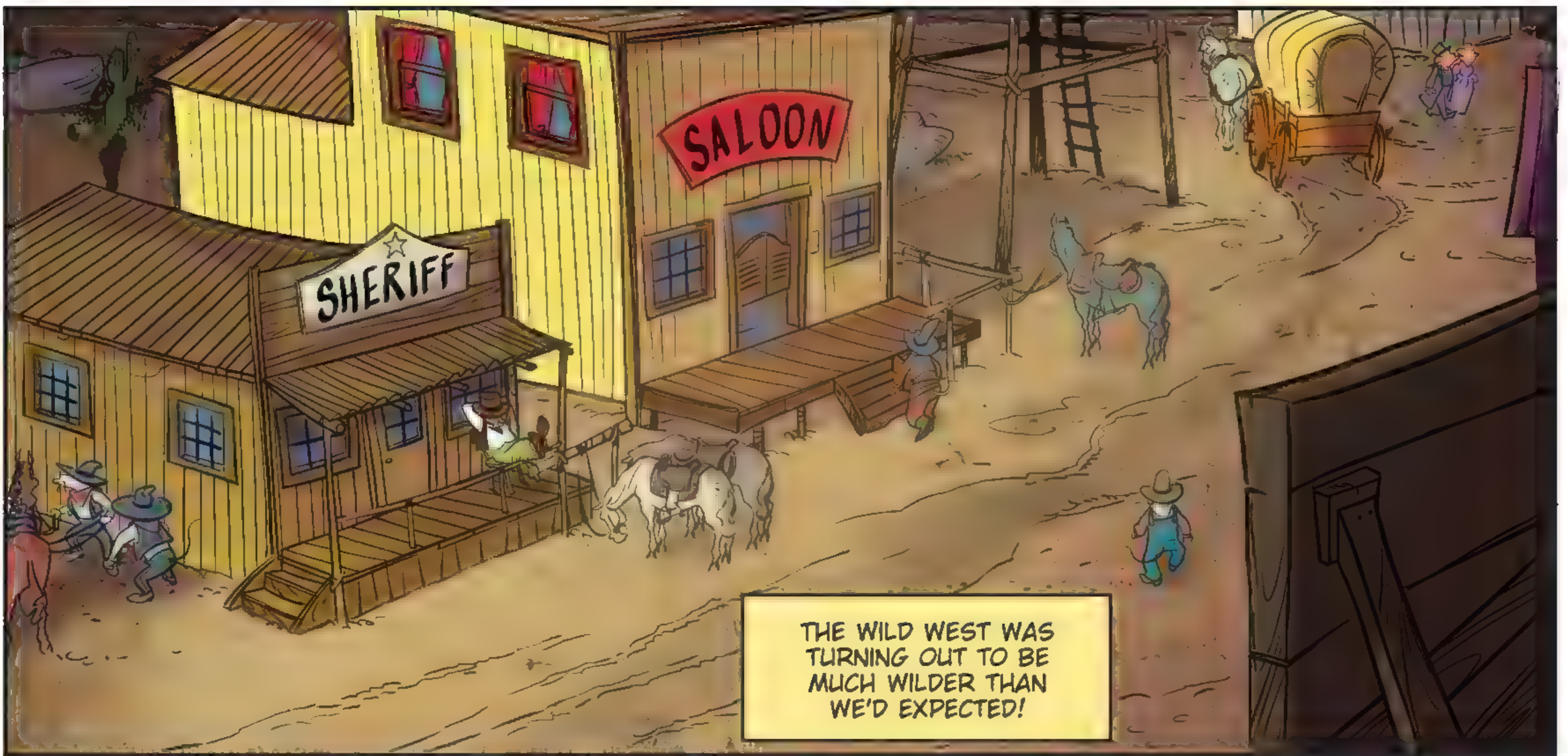
WE'RE SEEING THE PAW PRINTS OF THE PIRATE CATS HERE!

RIGHT! THEY MUST BE THE ONES WHO'VE CREATED THE CONFUSION WITH THE SUPPLIES.

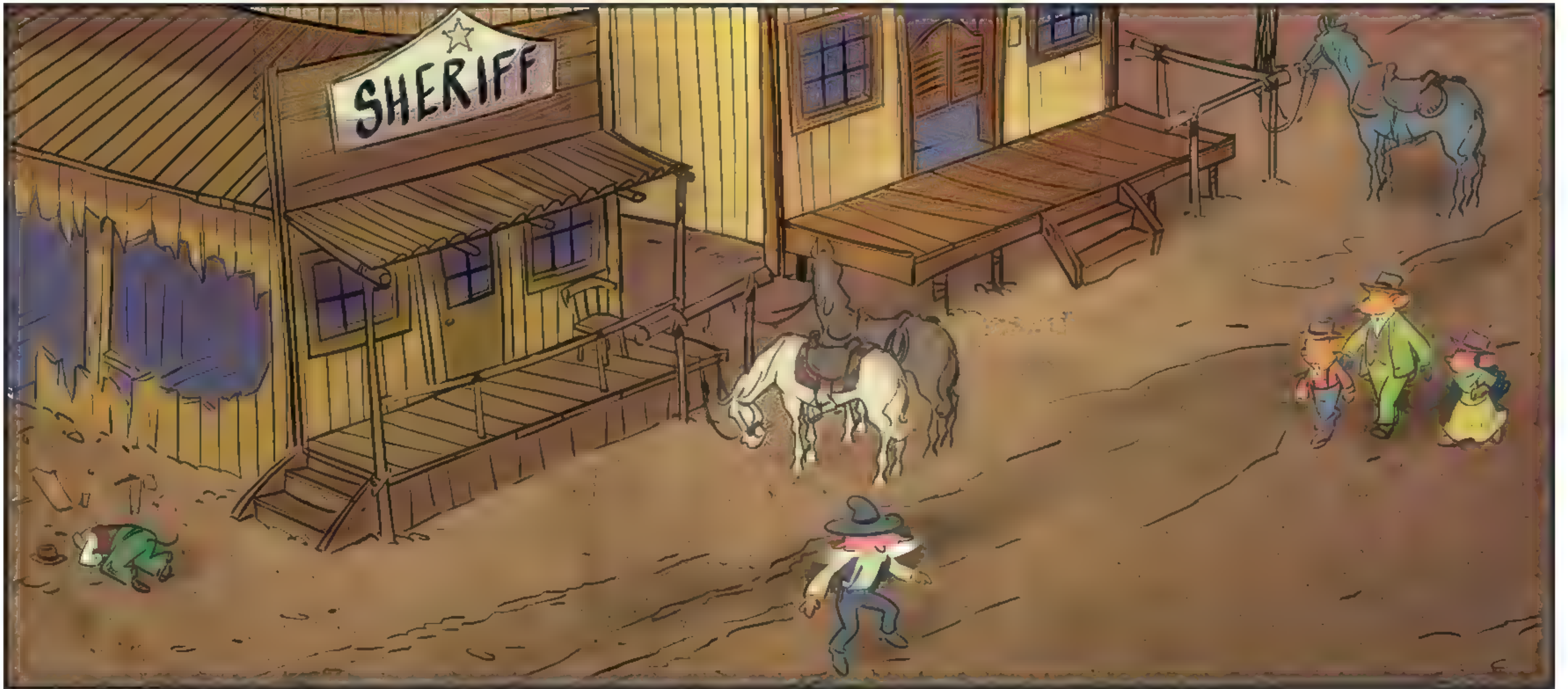


I WONDER HOW GERONIMO'S FARING?









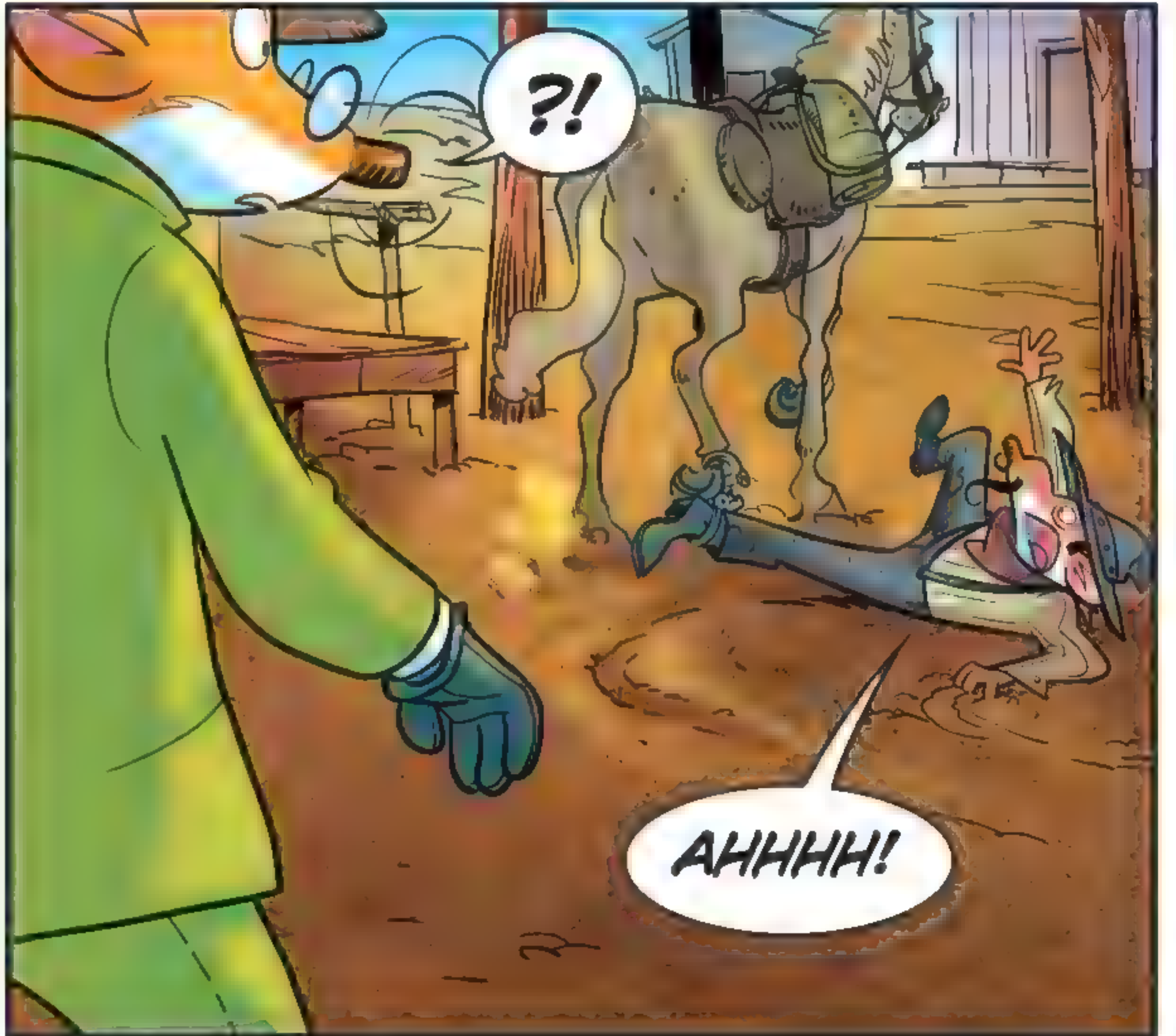




















**LELAND STANFORD**  
(1824-1893)  
GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA FROM 1862-63, HE WAS ONE OF THE BACKERS OF THE CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD, ONE OF THE TWO COMPANIES THAT CREATED THE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD. IT WAS REALLY LELAND STANFORD WHO JOINED THE TWO RAILWAY LINES AT PROMONTORY SUMMIT ON MAY 10, 1869. IN 1885, HE FOUNDED STANFORD UNIVERSITY, ABOUT 35 MILES SOUTH OF SAN FRANCISCO.





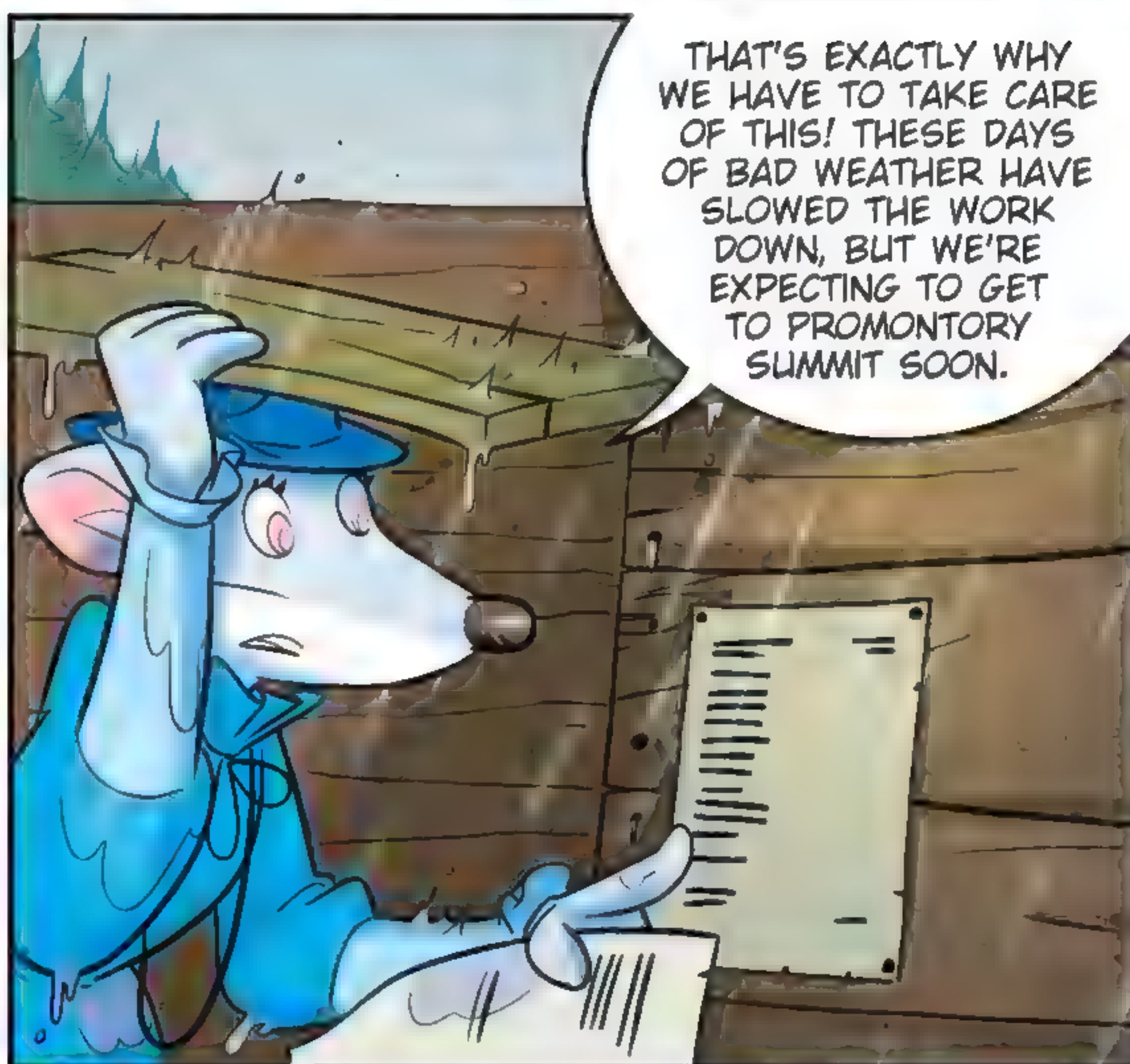


I CAN'T  
OPEN AND  
CLOSE CRATES  
ANY MORE!

ONE CRATE  
WAS ADDED TO THIS  
LIST AFTER WORK  
STARTED. IT MUST  
HAVE BEEN THE PIRATE  
CATS WHO MARKED IT  
ON THE LIST, TO  
HIDE THE CATJET.



BUT WE'VE  
OPENED ALMOST  
ALL OF THEM!  
AND NOW THE  
WORKERS ARE  
STARTING TO GET  
SUSPICIOUS  
OF US!



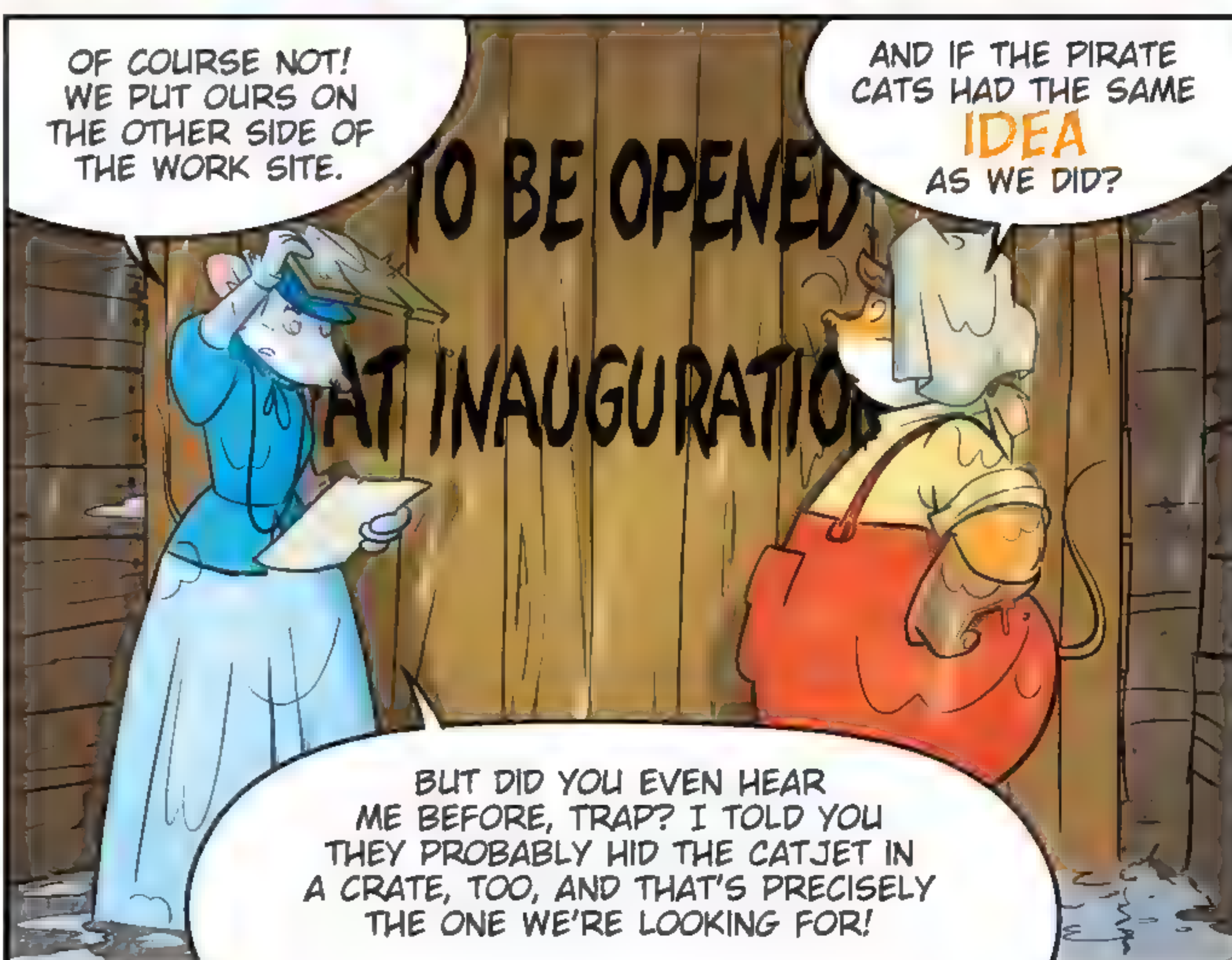
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY  
WE HAVE TO TAKE CARE  
OF THIS! THESE DAYS  
OF BAD WEATHER HAVE  
SLOWED THE WORK  
DOWN, BUT WE'RE  
EXPECTING TO GET  
TO PROMONTORY  
SUMMIT SOON.



UHM, THEA?

WHAT  
IS IT?

THE CRATE  
THAT WAS ADDED  
TO THE LIST ISN'T  
OURS, RIGHT?

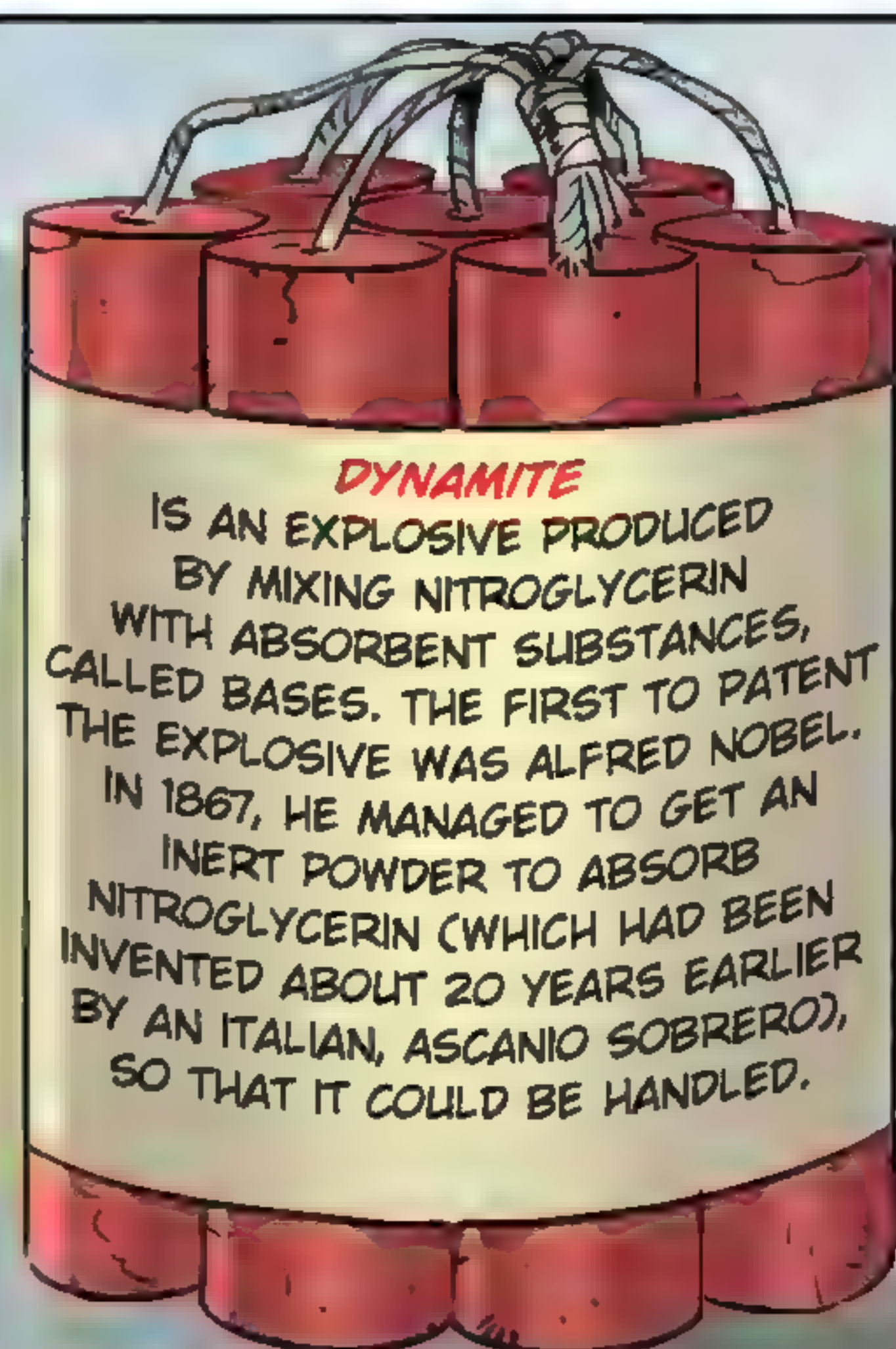
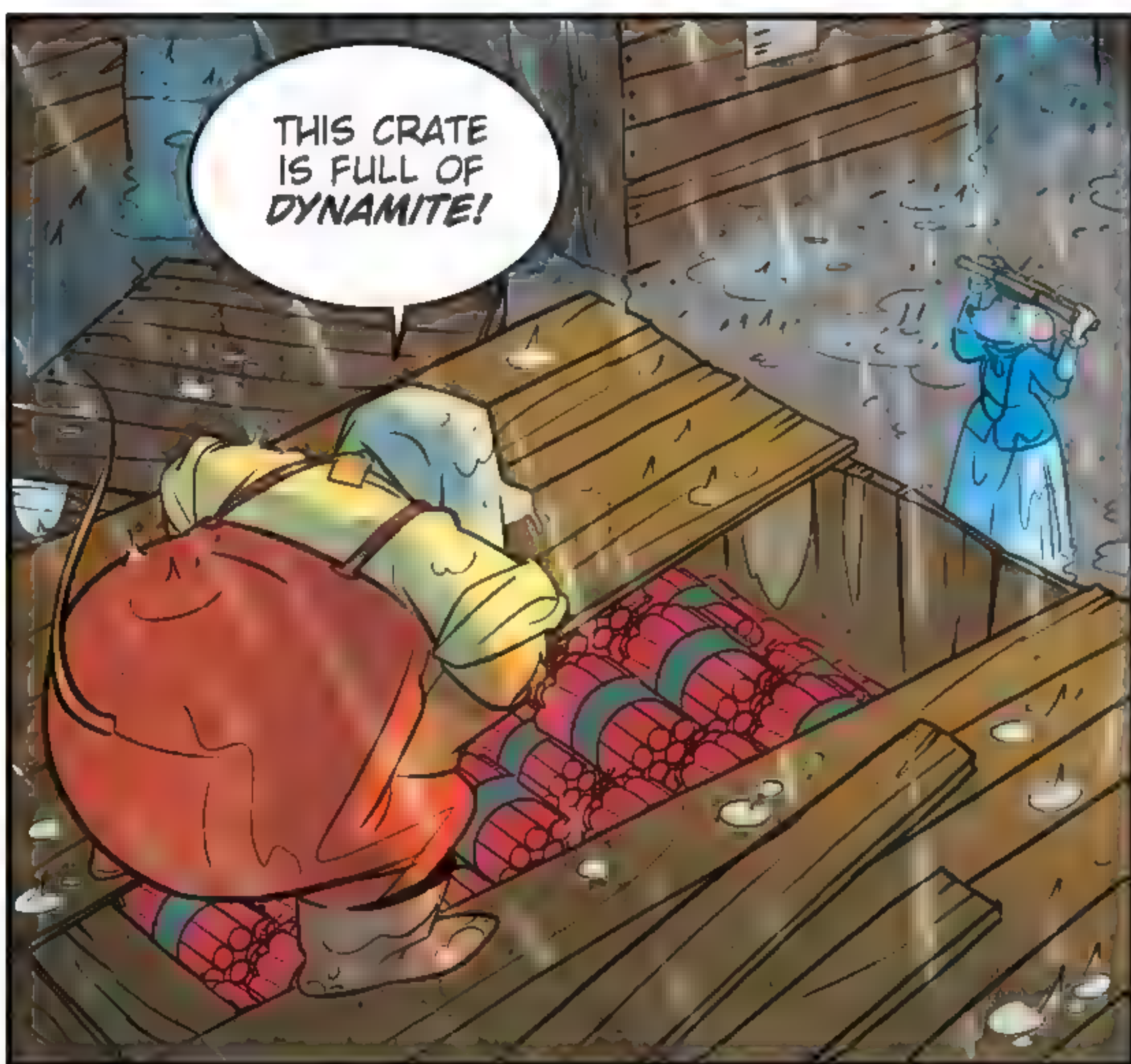
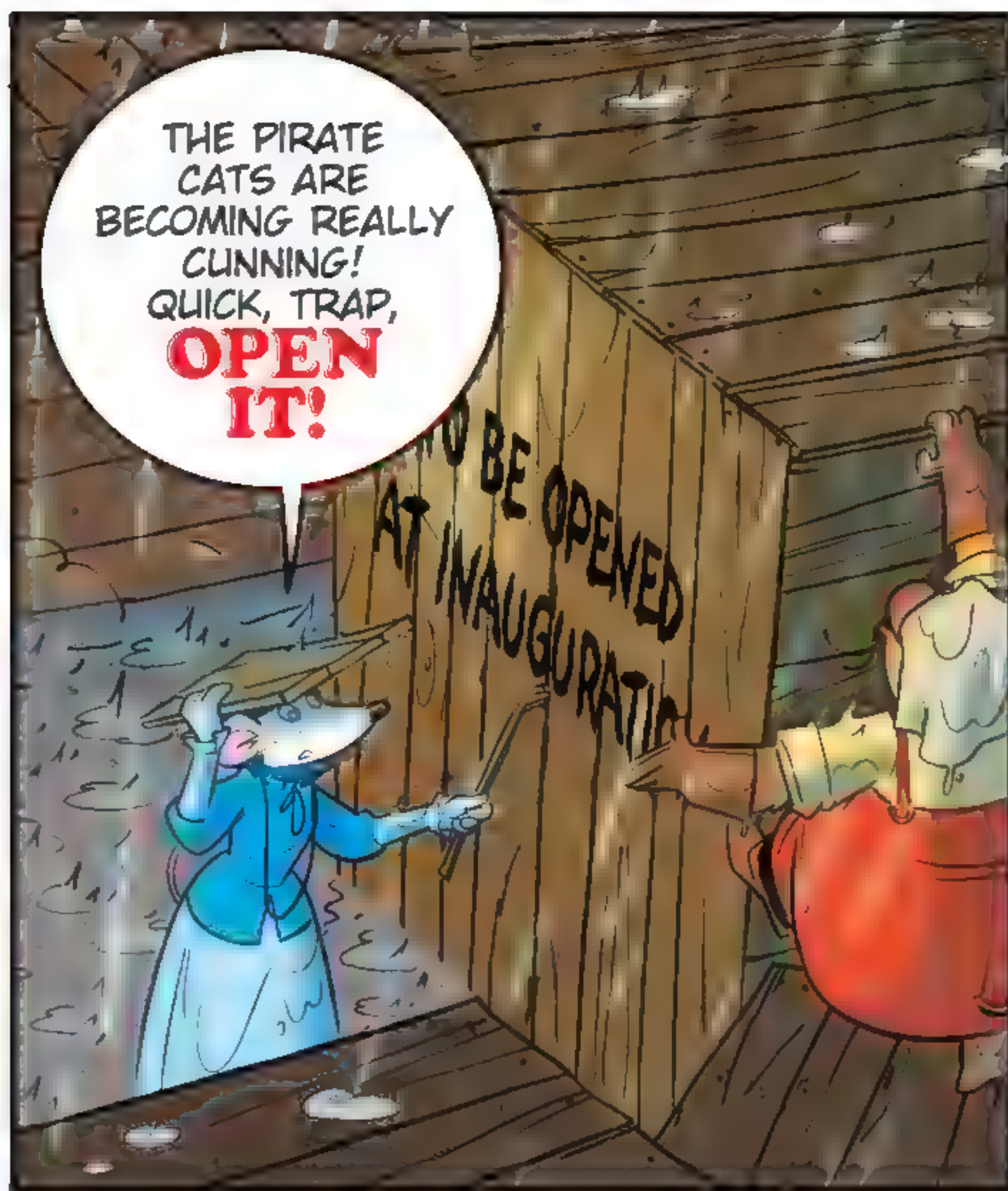
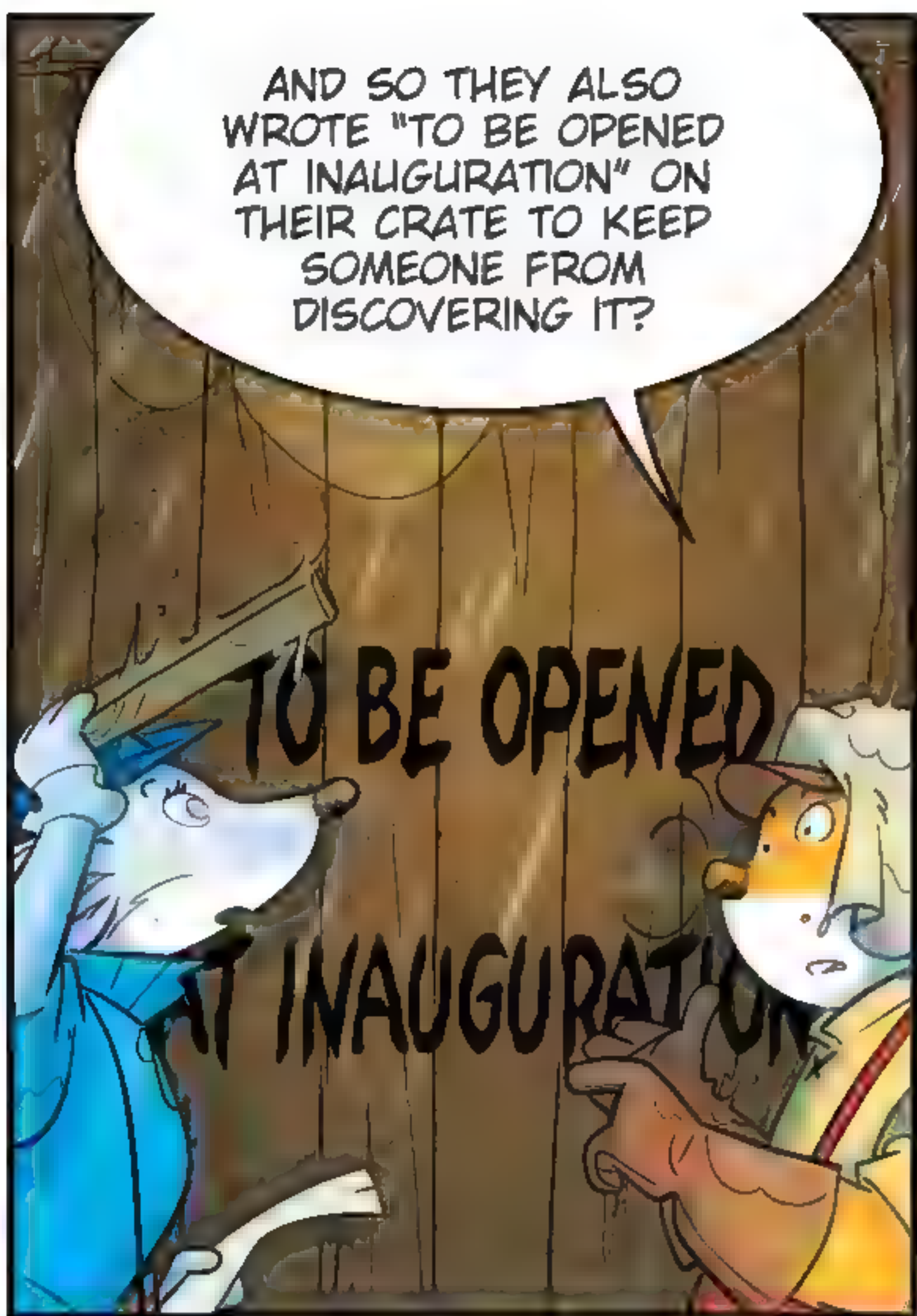


OF COURSE NOT!  
WE PUT OURS ON  
THE OTHER SIDE OF  
THE WORK SITE.

AND IF THE PIRATE  
CATS HAD THE SAME  
**IDEA**  
AS WE DID?

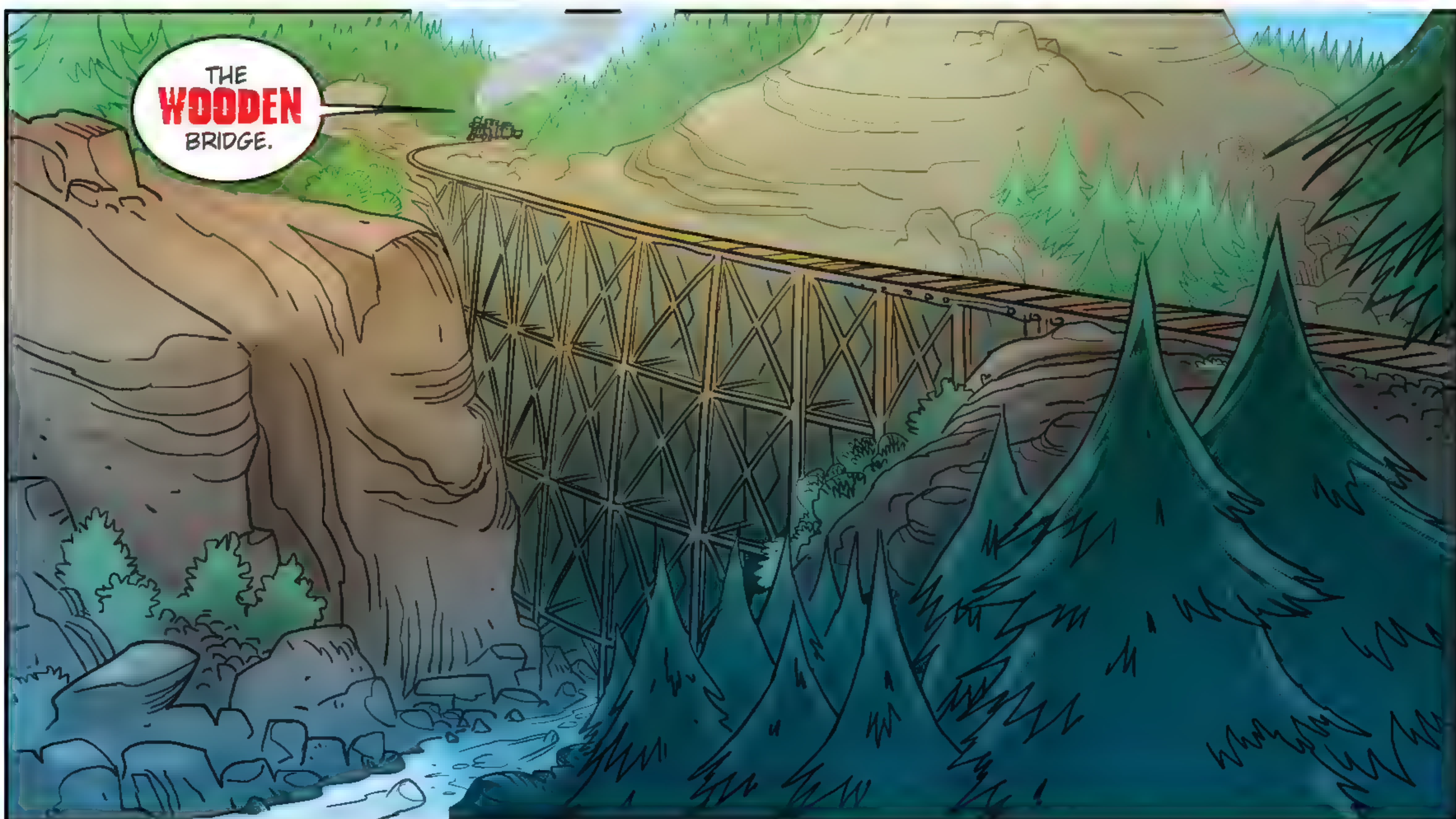
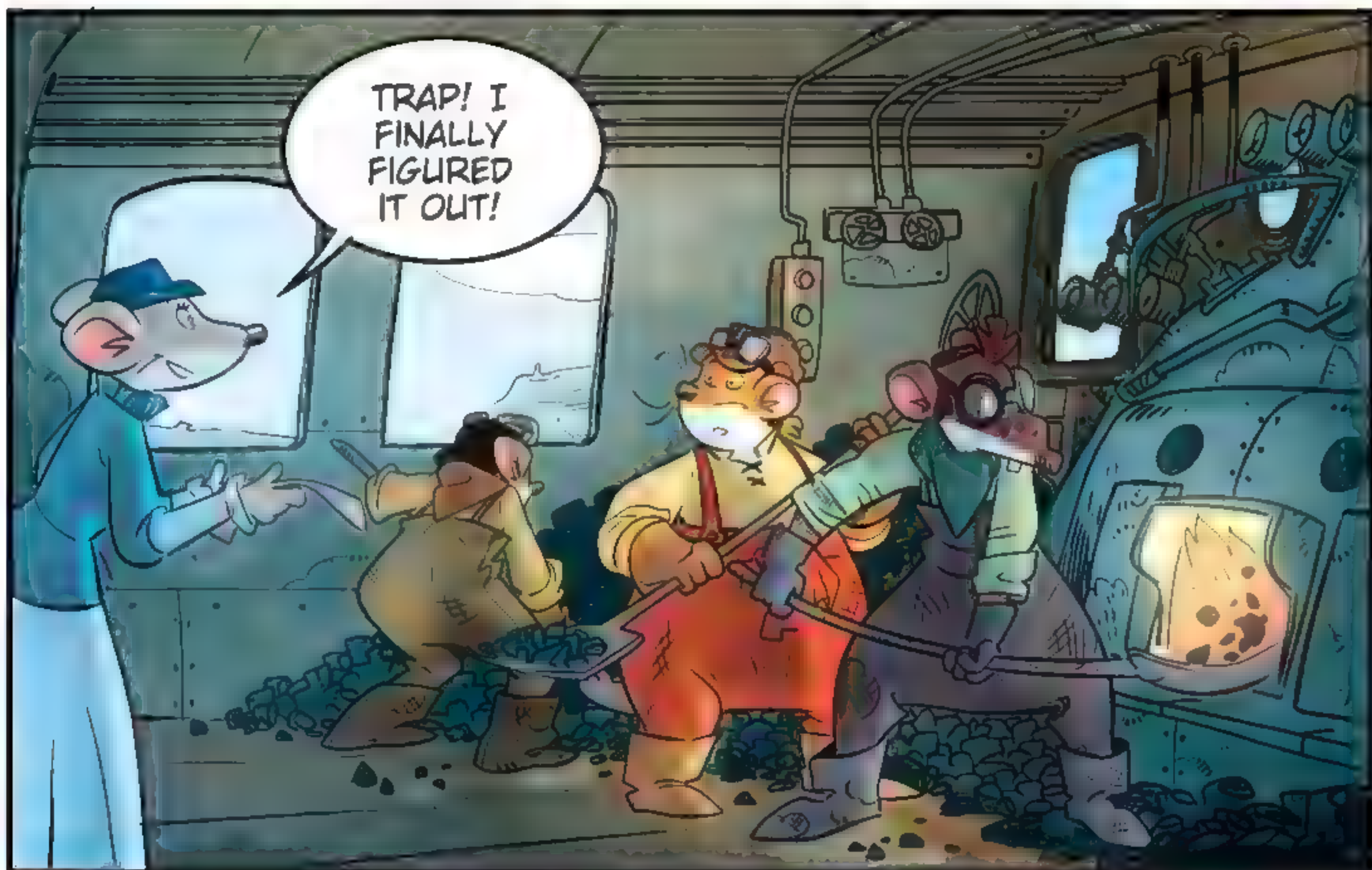
BUT DID YOU EVEN HEAR  
ME BEFORE, TRAP? I TOLD YOU  
THEY PROBABLY HID THE CATJET IN  
A CRATE, TOO, AND THAT'S PRECISELY  
THE ONE WE'RE LOOKING FOR!







THE NEXT MORNING...



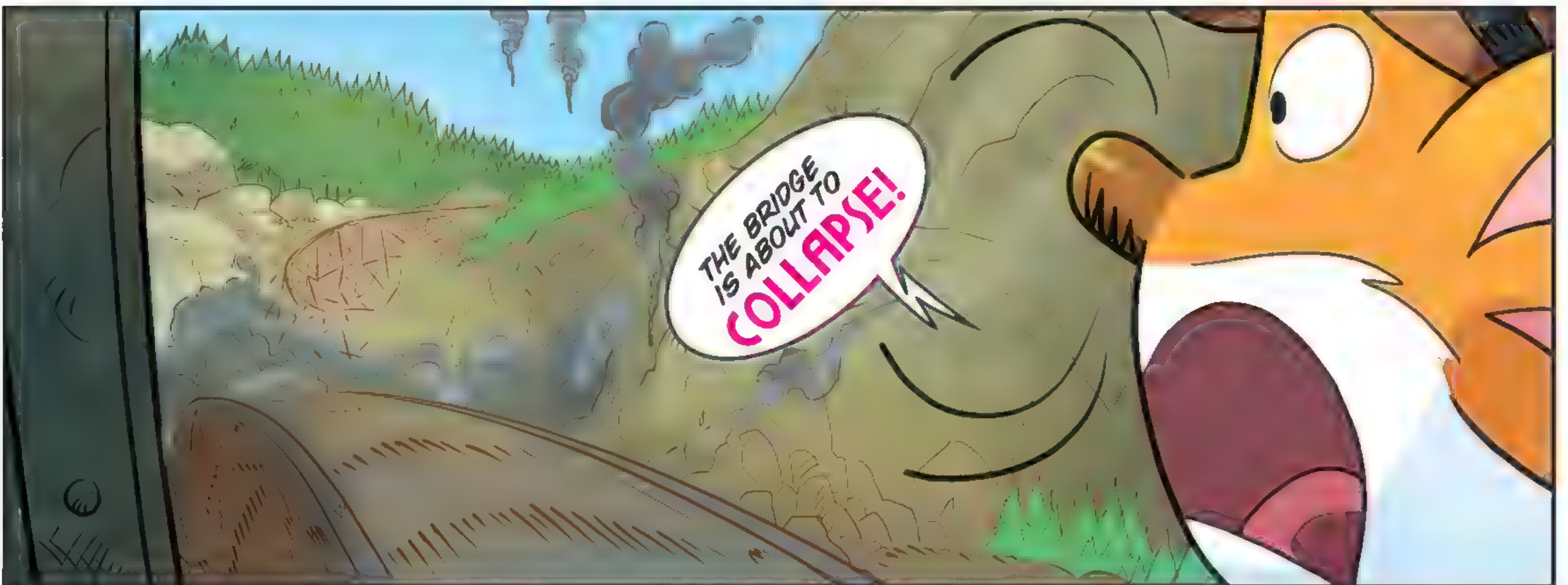












WE'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE IT! WE'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE IT!

YOU'RE RIGHT, UNFORTUNATELY!





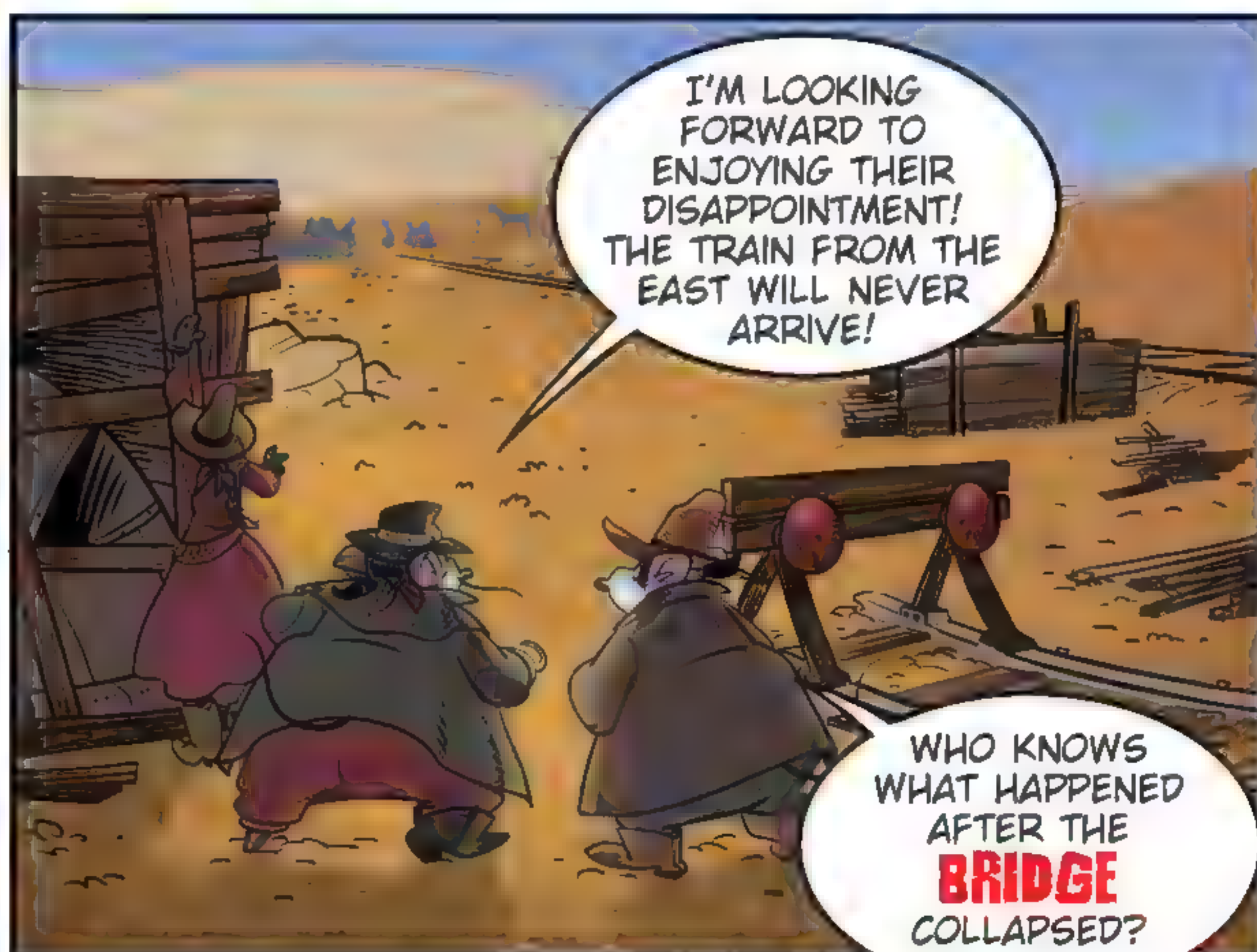
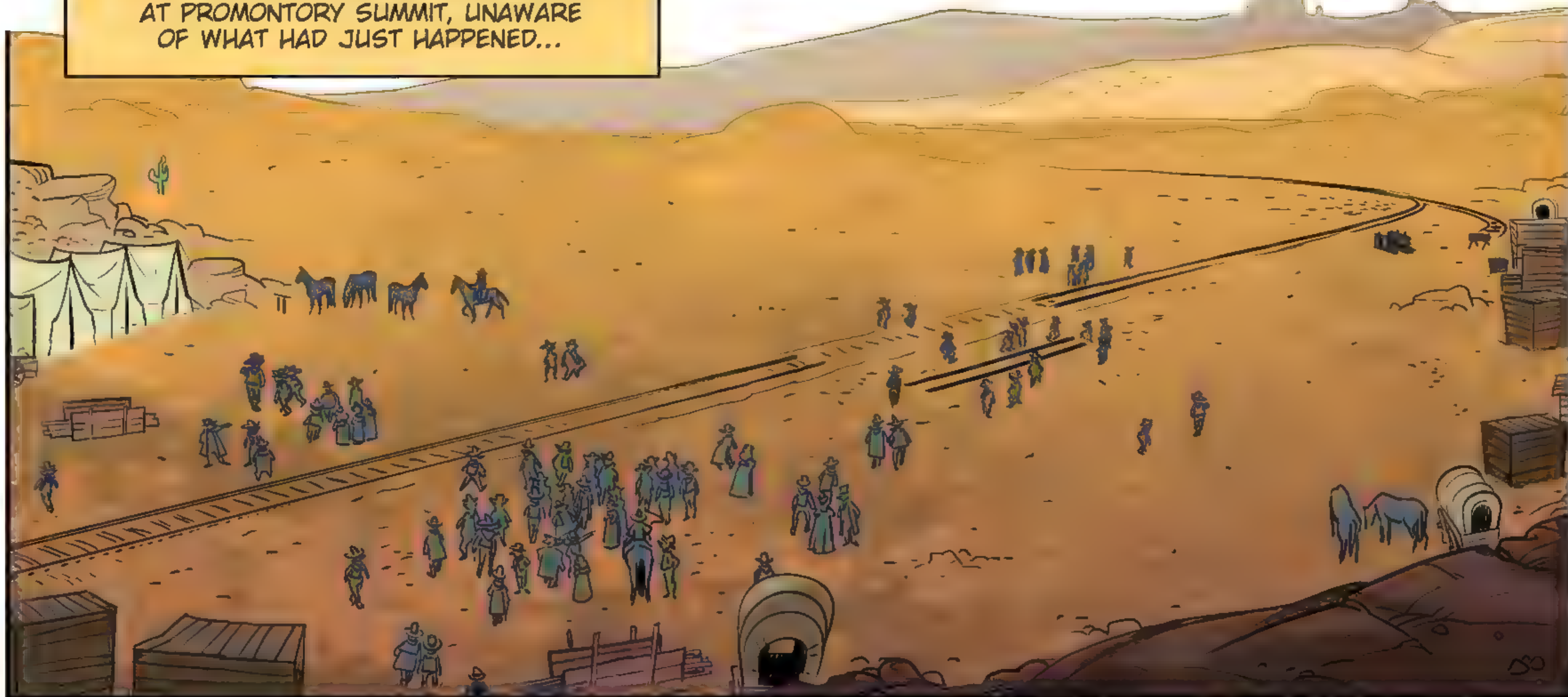




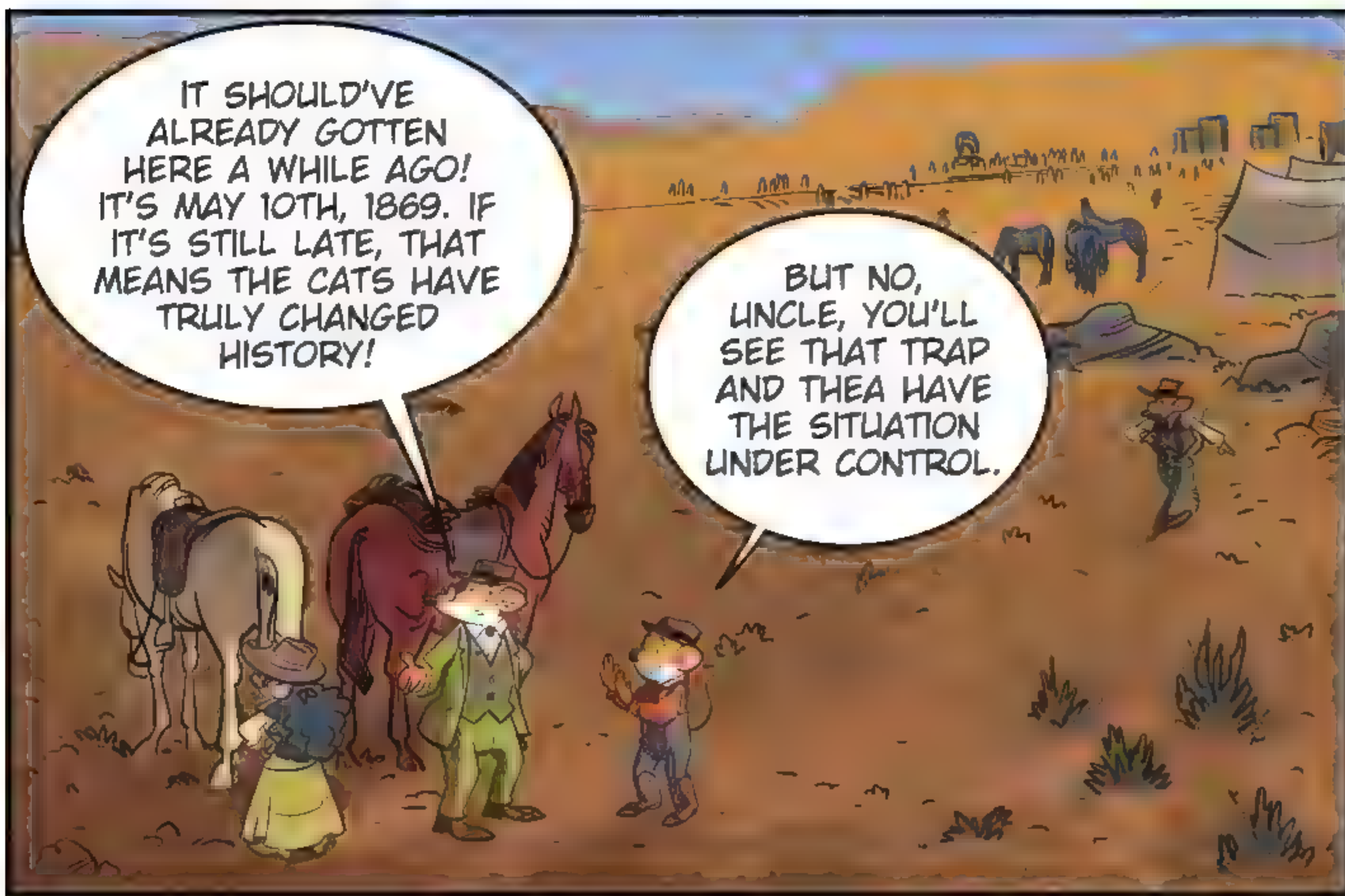




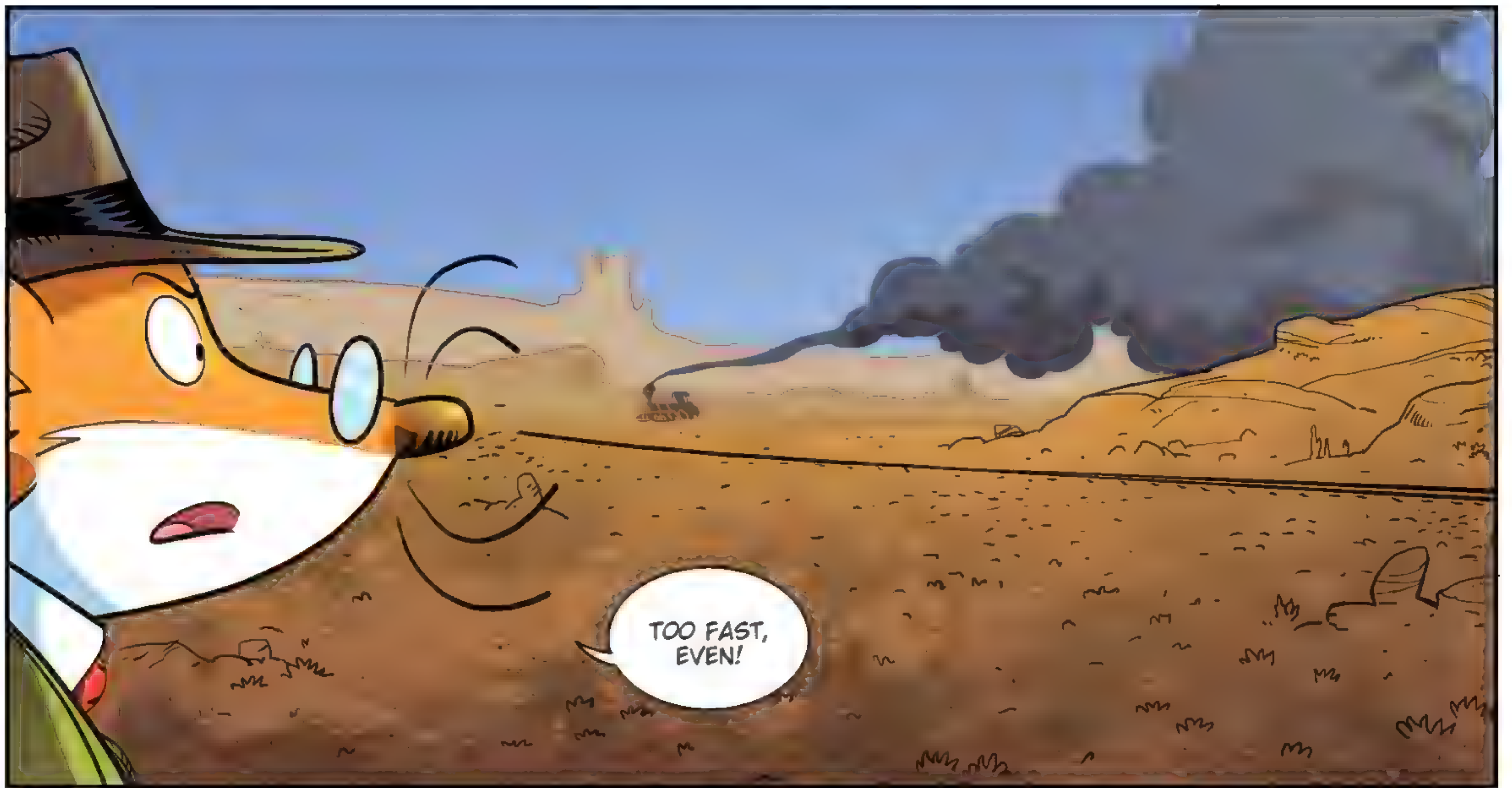
MEANWHILE, WE WERE WAITING FOR THE ARRIVAL OF THE TRAIN FROM THE EAST AT PROMONTORY SUMMIT, UNAWARE OF WHAT HAD JUST HAPPENED...







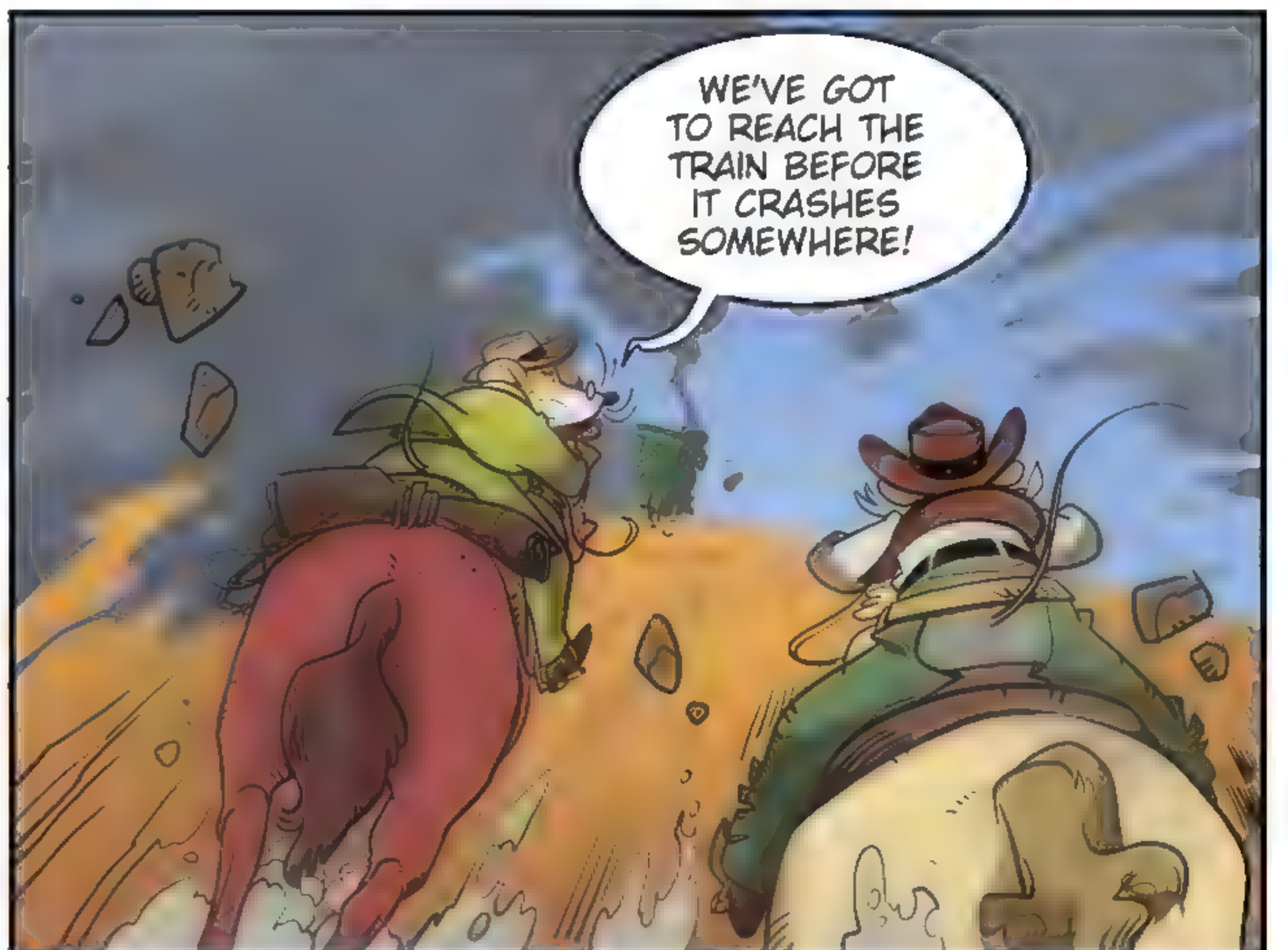
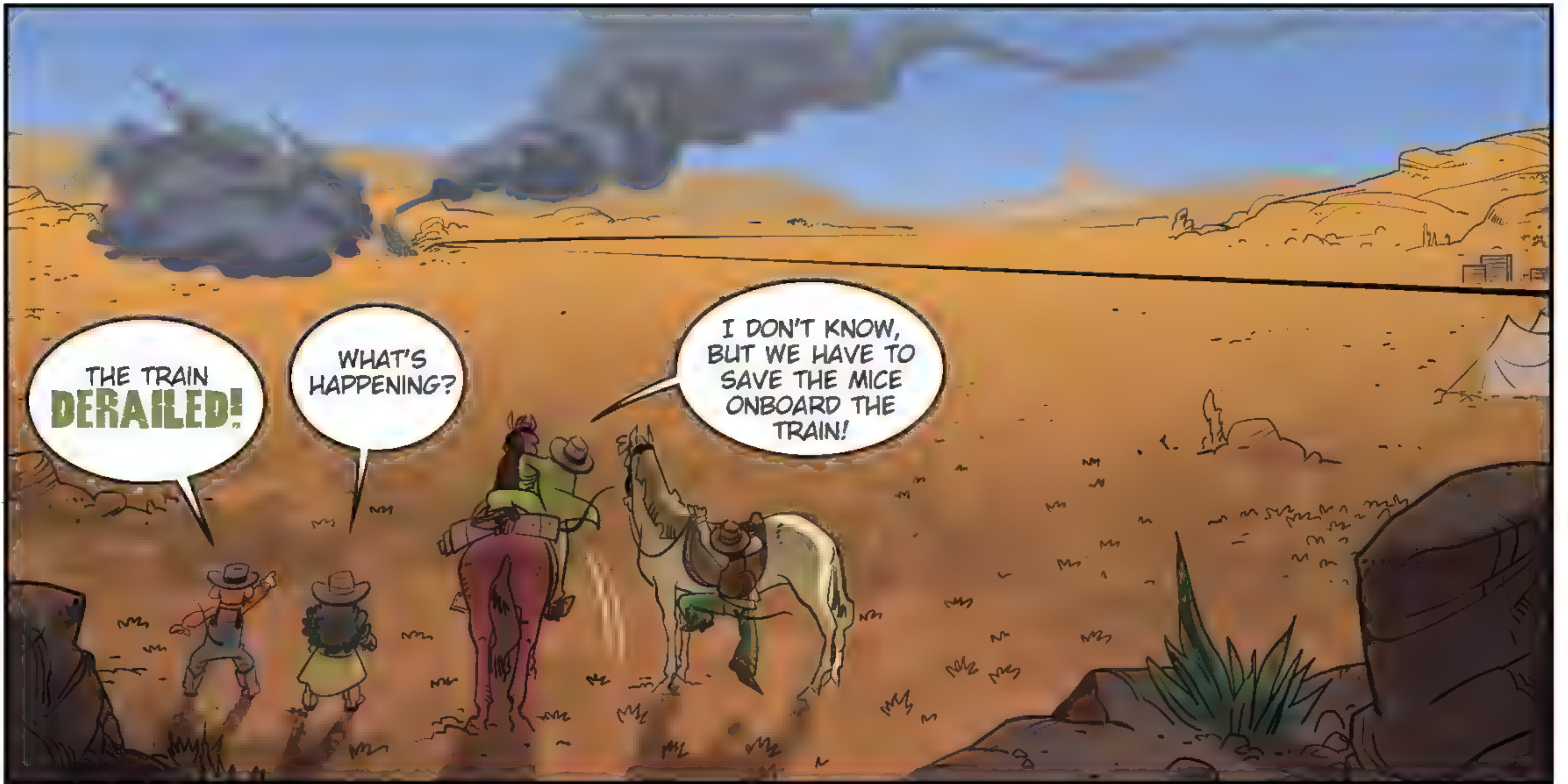




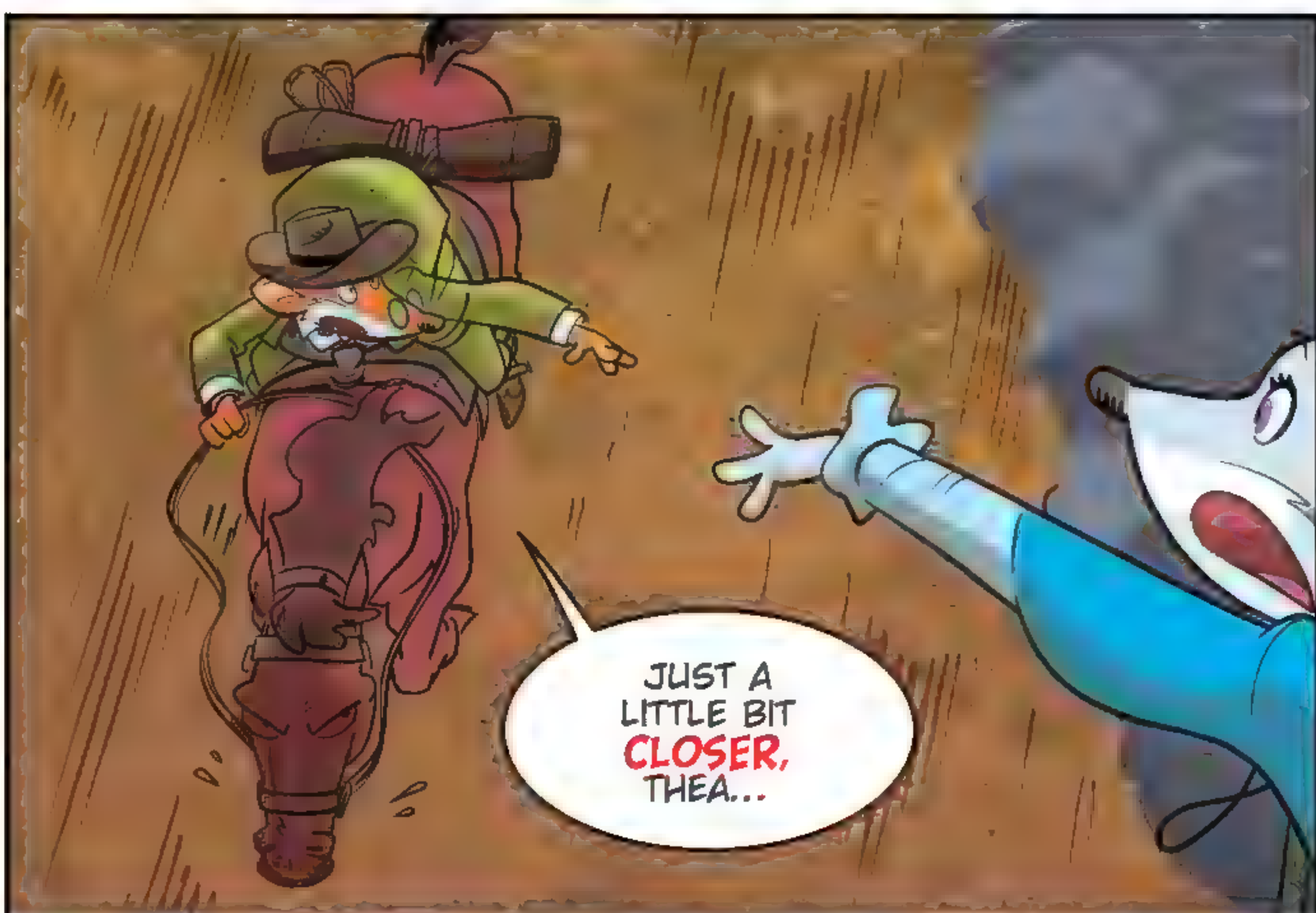
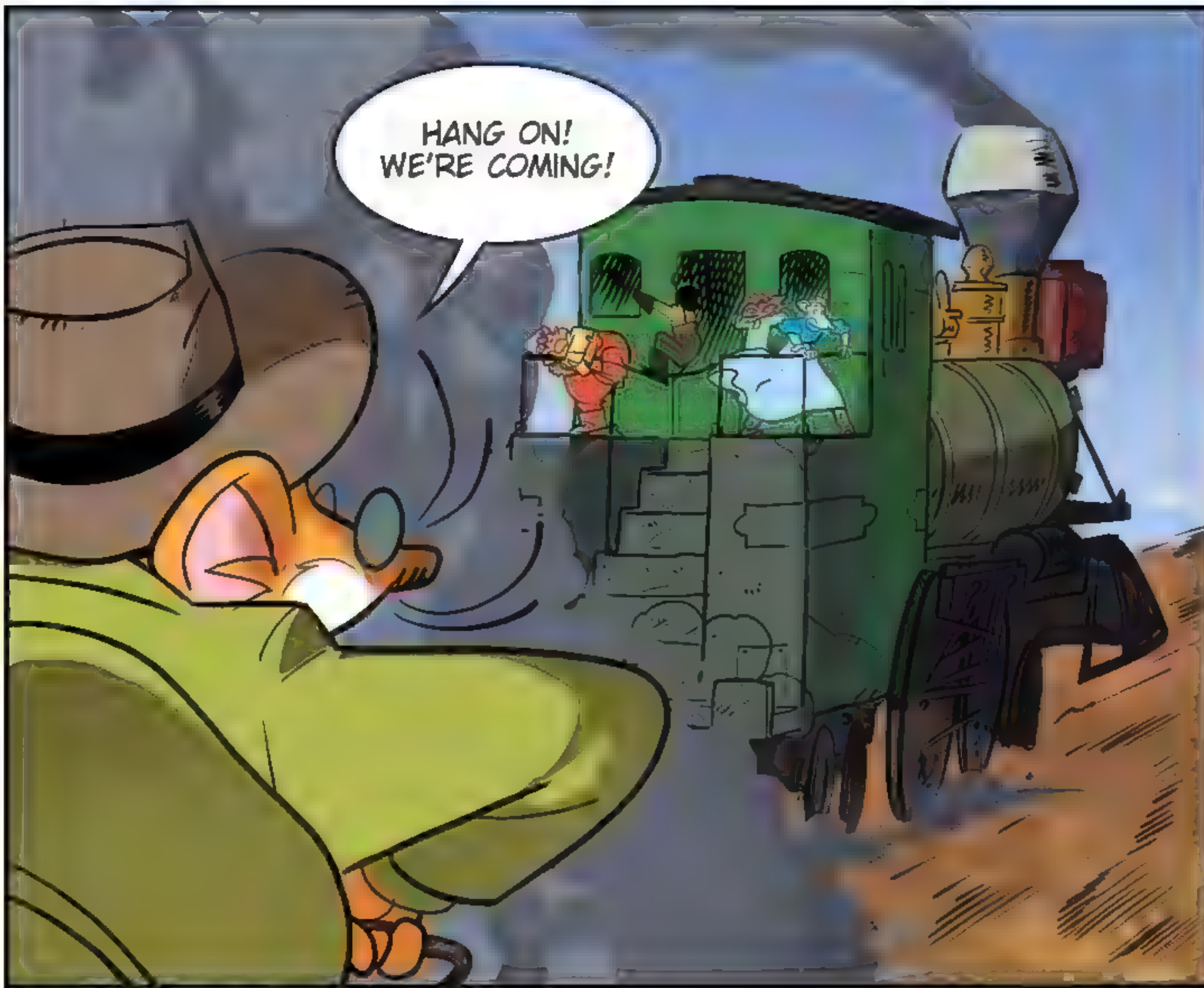




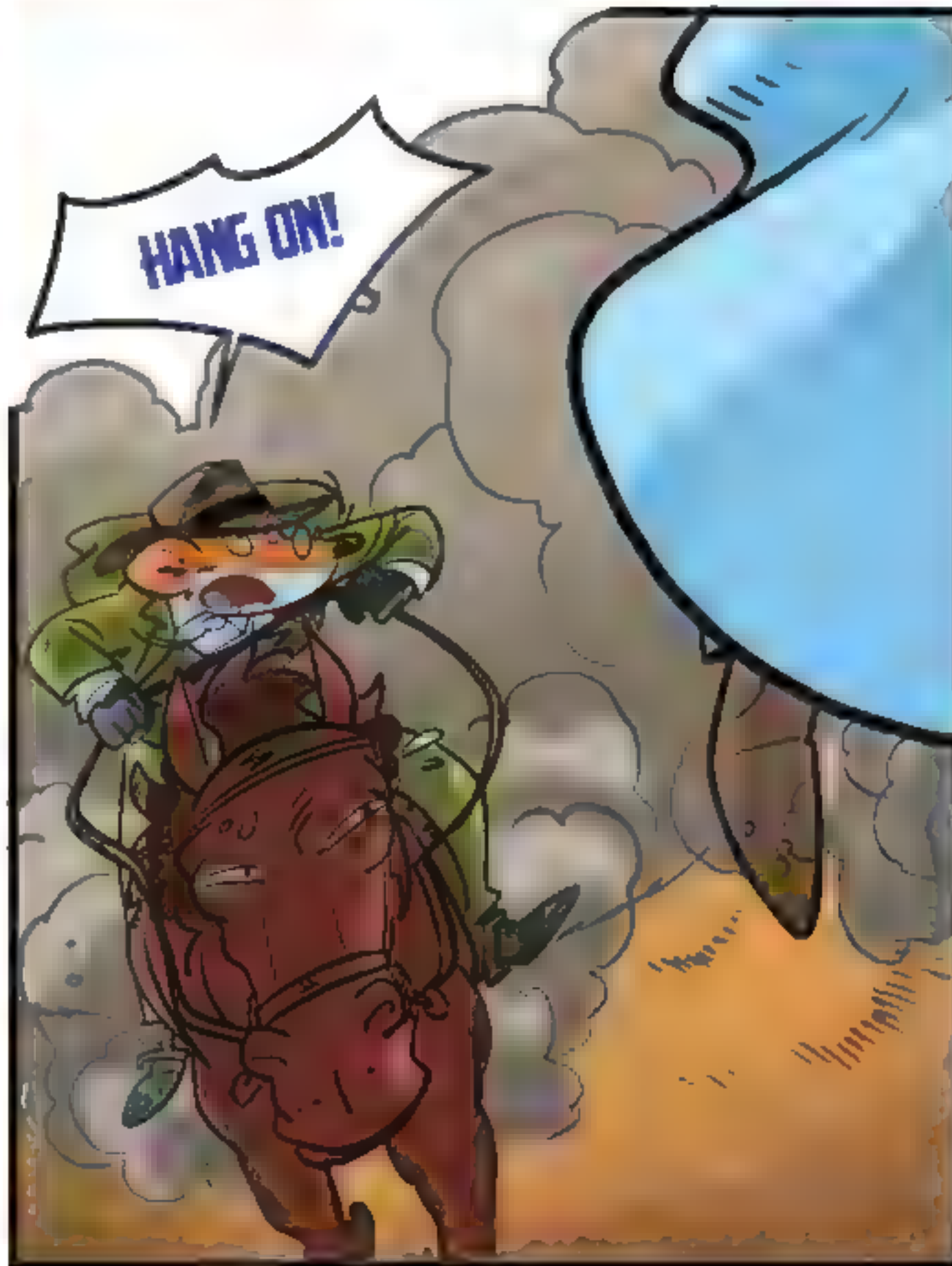




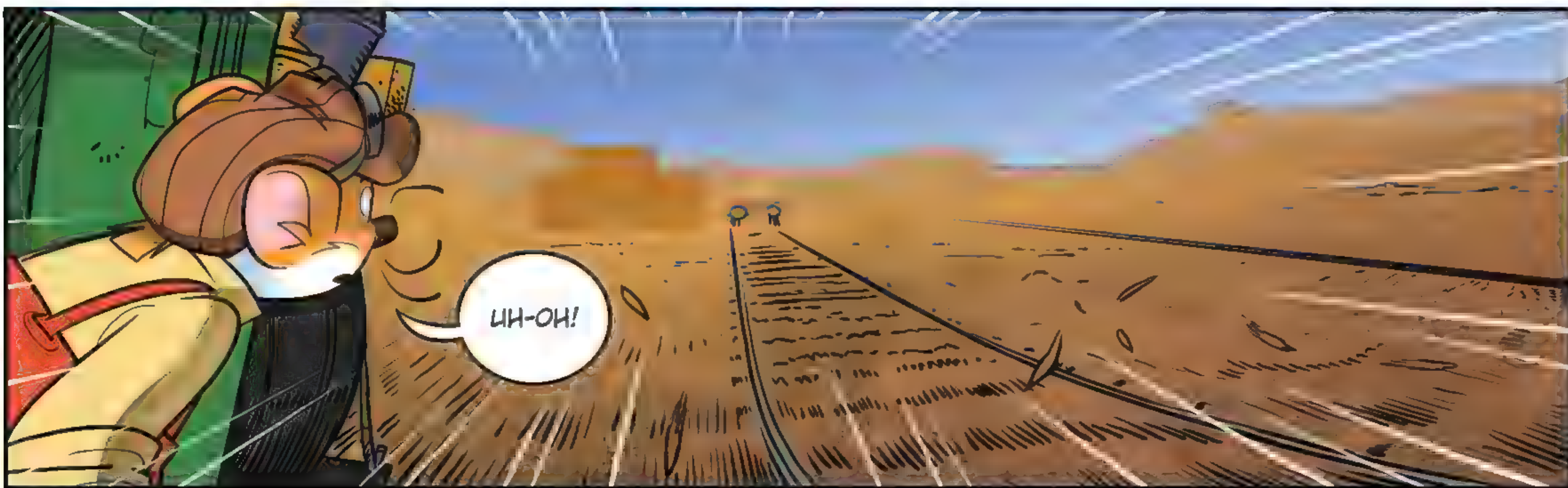




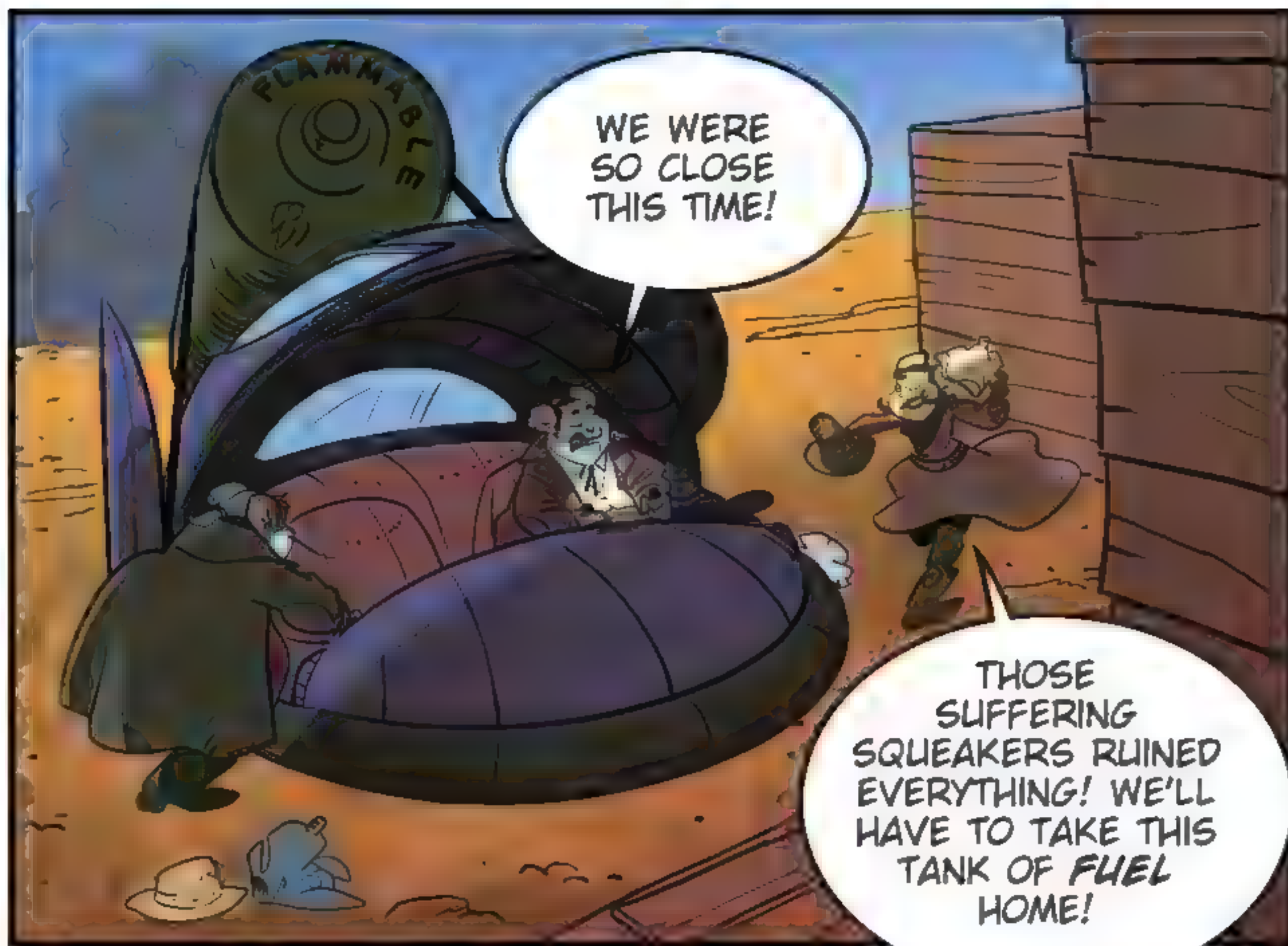














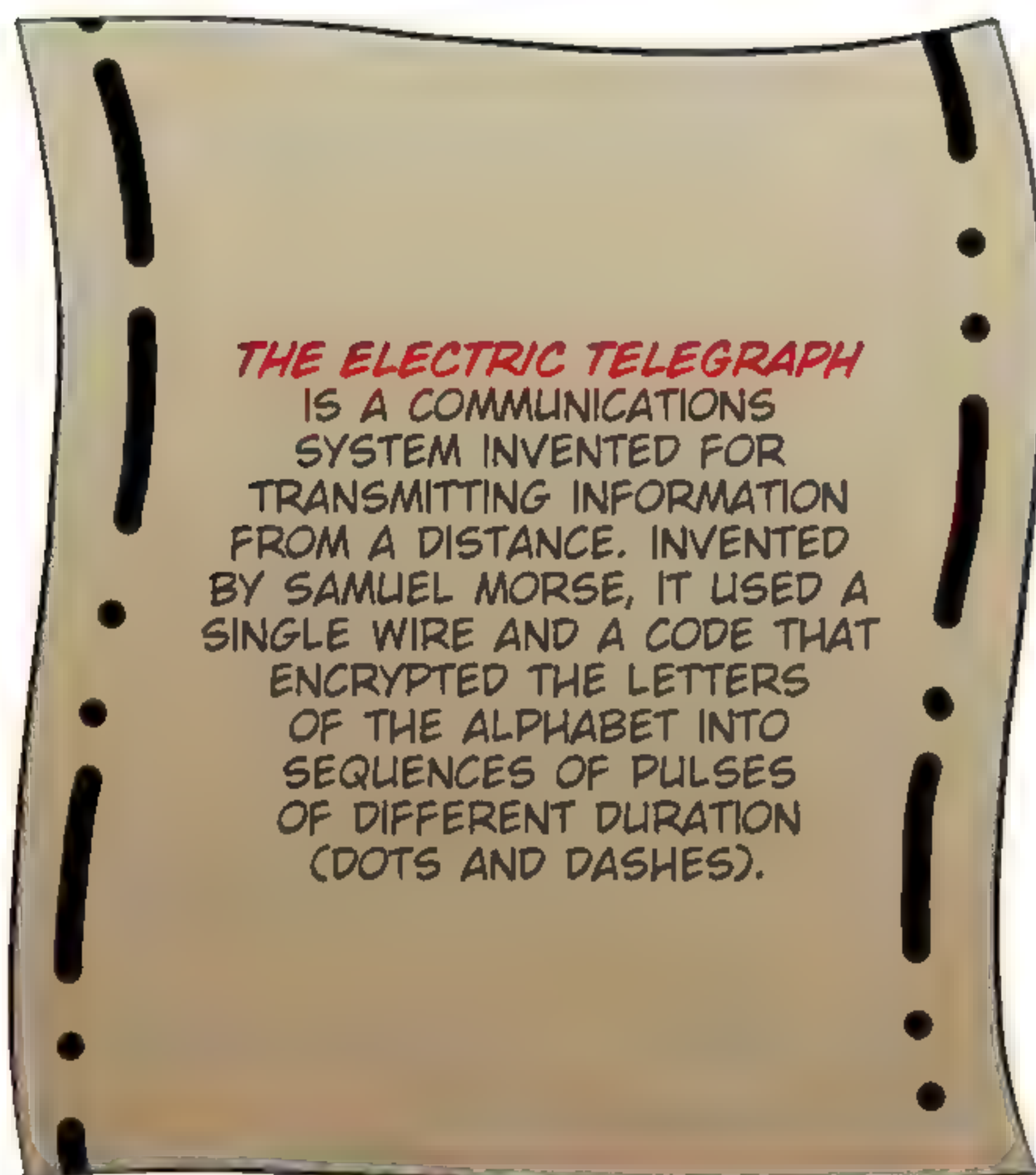
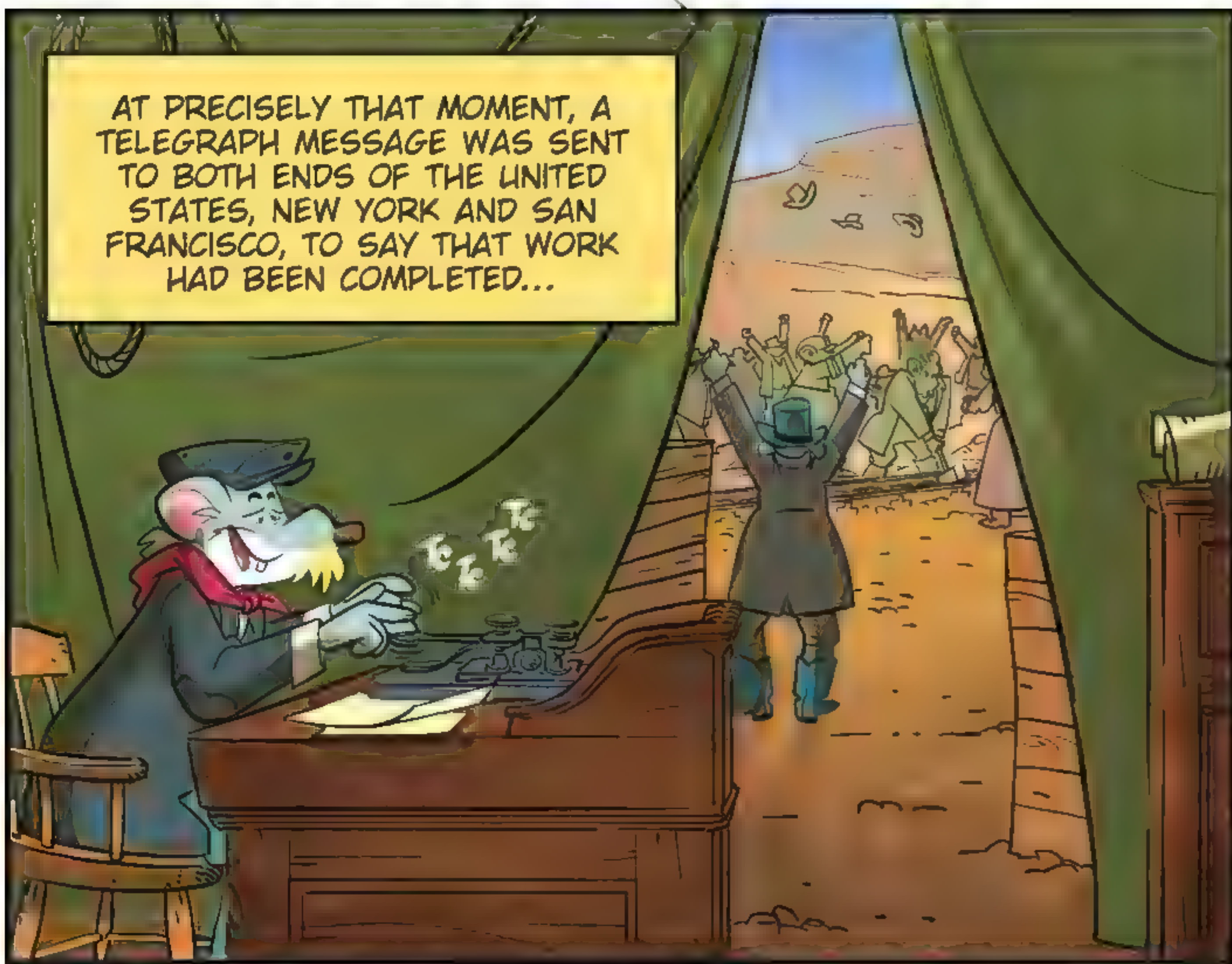
**FAREWELL,  
SUFFERING  
SQUEAKERS!**  
WE'LL MEET EACH  
OTHER AGAIN SOON!



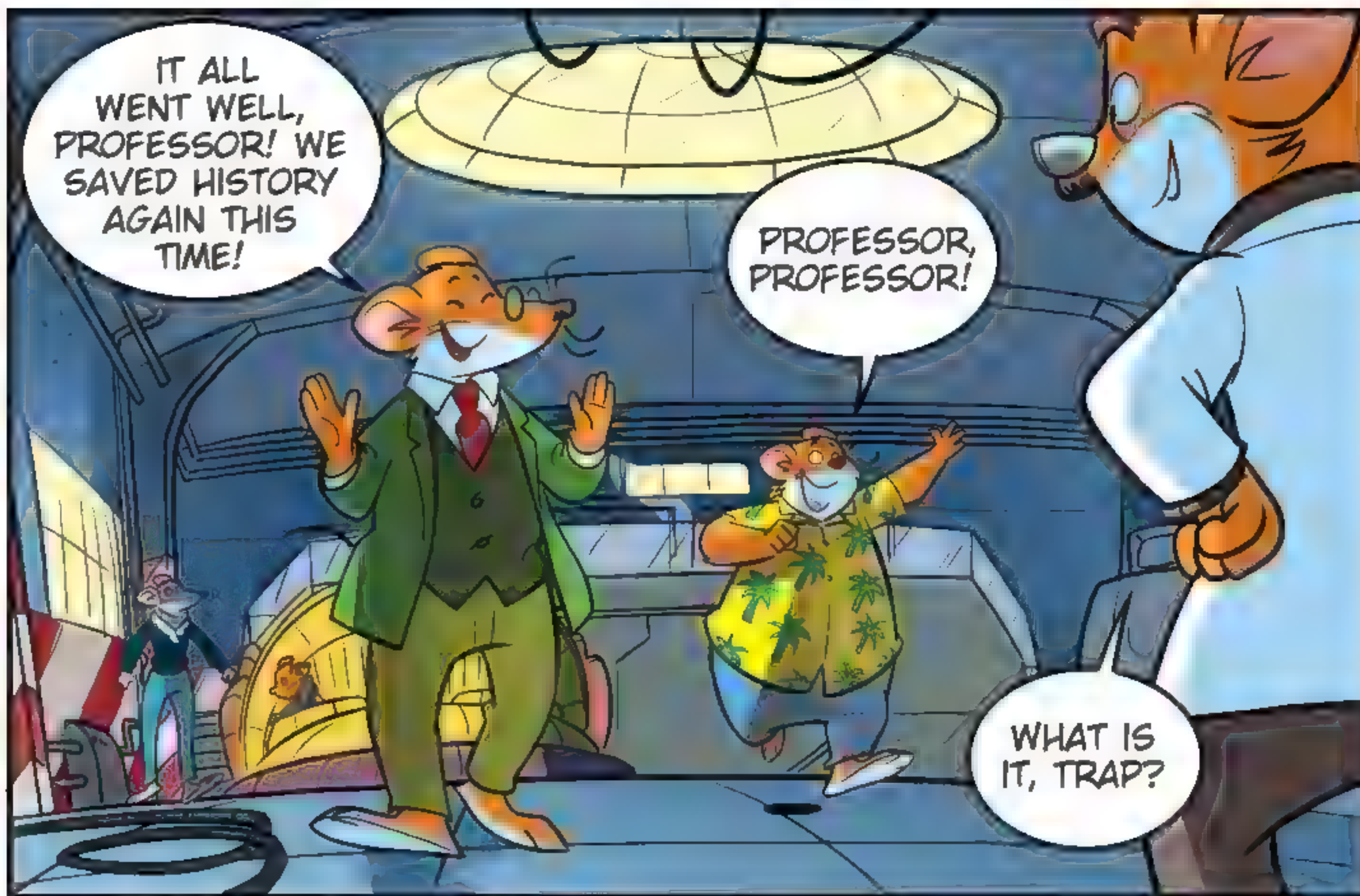












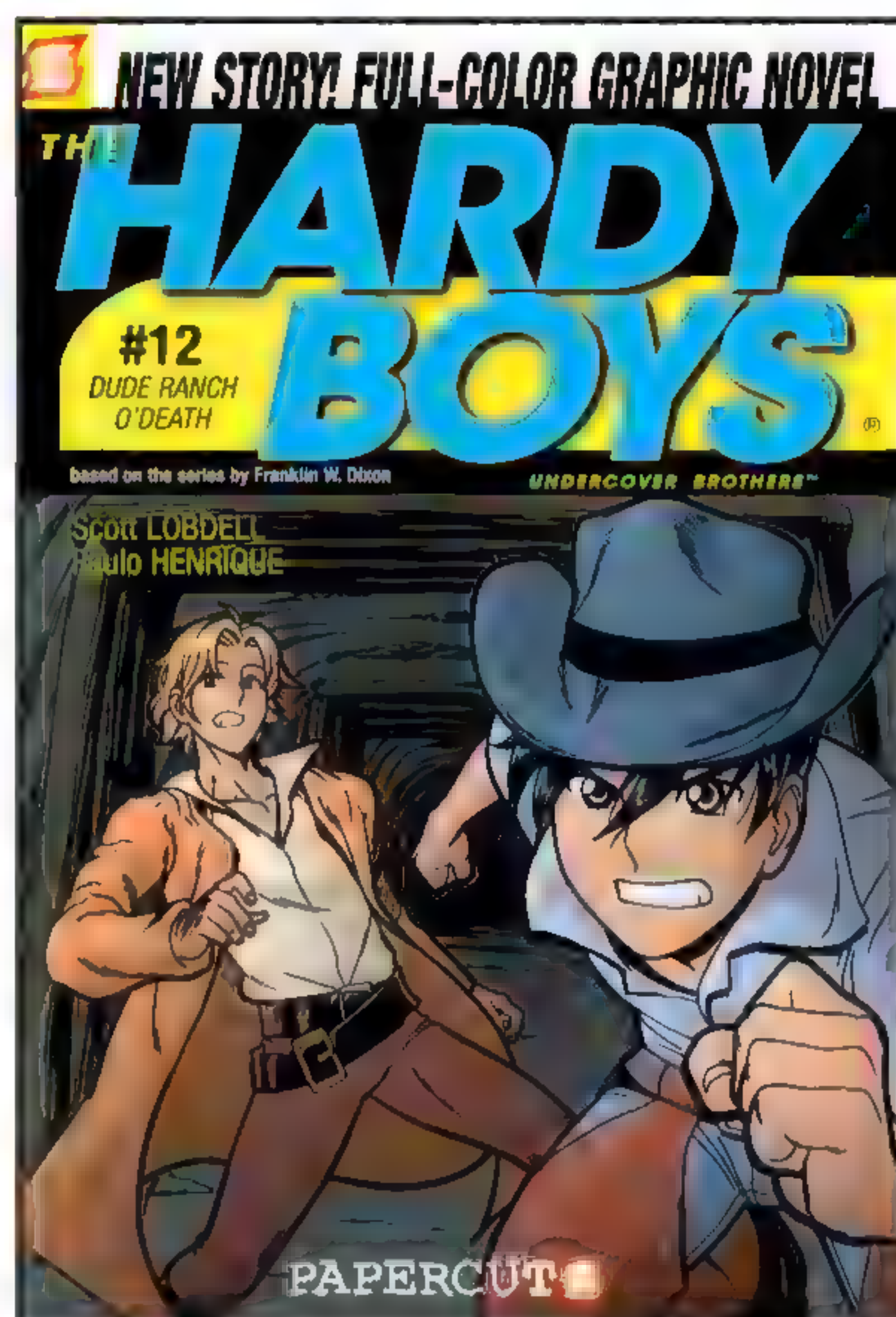




## Watch Out For PAPERCUTZ

Welcome to the roughest, toughest, rootin', tootinist, thirteenth GERONIMO STILTON graphic novel from Papercutz, those East Coast city-slickers (even if Editor Michael Petranek is from Texas) dedicated to publishing great graphic novels for all ages. I'm Salicrup, *Jim Salicrup*, the Editor-in-Chief around these here parts. Even though I was born in The Bronx, I grew up around westerns. Allow me to explain...

Back when I was just a youngin, there was only one TV set for my whole family. That meant we all had to share the same TV. And this was way before cable TV or 24-hour channels with nothing but cartoons (you guys don't know how lucky you are!). My mom liked to watch romantic shows, my dad and brother liked to watch action shows (which included lots of westerns, or as my dad called them, "Shoot 'em ups!"), and I enjoyed comedies. For better or worse, we all got to watch a lot of shows we may not have been all that interested in at the time, but in my case, I'm glad I got to watch so many great Western shows such as *Gunsmoke*, *Bonanza*, *The Wild, Wild, West*, *Wagon Train*, *The Rifle Man*, *Zorro*, and many more. There were even western comedies such as *F Troop* and *Rango*, and even western cartoons such as *The Lone Ranger* and *Yosemite Sam*, which I also loved.



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Looking back, I think it's great that I was exposed to so many types of entertainment. As a result, even today I like a lot of variety—in movies, books, TV, music, food, and even in comics. Papercutz is proud to offer a great assortment of titles-- everything from ARIOL to LEGO® NINJAGO. But with exception of ZORRO and one HARDY BOYS graphic novel, we haven't published any westerns... until now (even if it does include time-traveling mice!). We hope you love "The Fastest Train in the West" as much as we do, and hope you'll be back for GERONIMO STILTON #14 "The First Mouse on the Moon." That'll be the first time Geronimo goes back into a time where I was actually alive! **MOLDY MOZZARELLA!** I'm getting really old! Check out the preview on the following pages.

See you in the future!

Jim

### STAY IN TOUCH!

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Special preview of GERONIMO STILTON #14 "The First Mouse on the Moon"!







THE CIRQUE DU TOPEIL!



FOR THE EVENT, I'D INVITED MY RELATIVES, BUT I HADN'T SEEN THEM GET HERE YET.

SKRITCH SKRITCH

GERONIMO!



BUT I'M SO SCATTERBRAINED: I HAVEN'T INTRODUCED MYSELF! MY NAME IS STILTON, *Geronimo Stilton!*, AND I EDIT THE RODENT'S GAZETTE, THE MOST FAMOUSE PAPER ON MOUSE ISLAND!

HERE YOU ARE, FINALLY!

AND THAT'S MY SISTER, THEA, MY COUSIN, TRAP, AND MY NEPHEW, BENJAMIN, WITH HIS FRIEND BUGSY WUGSY.



WE WERE ON TIME, UNCLE, BUT TRAP WANTED TO STOP AND BUY SOME CANDIED CHEESE...

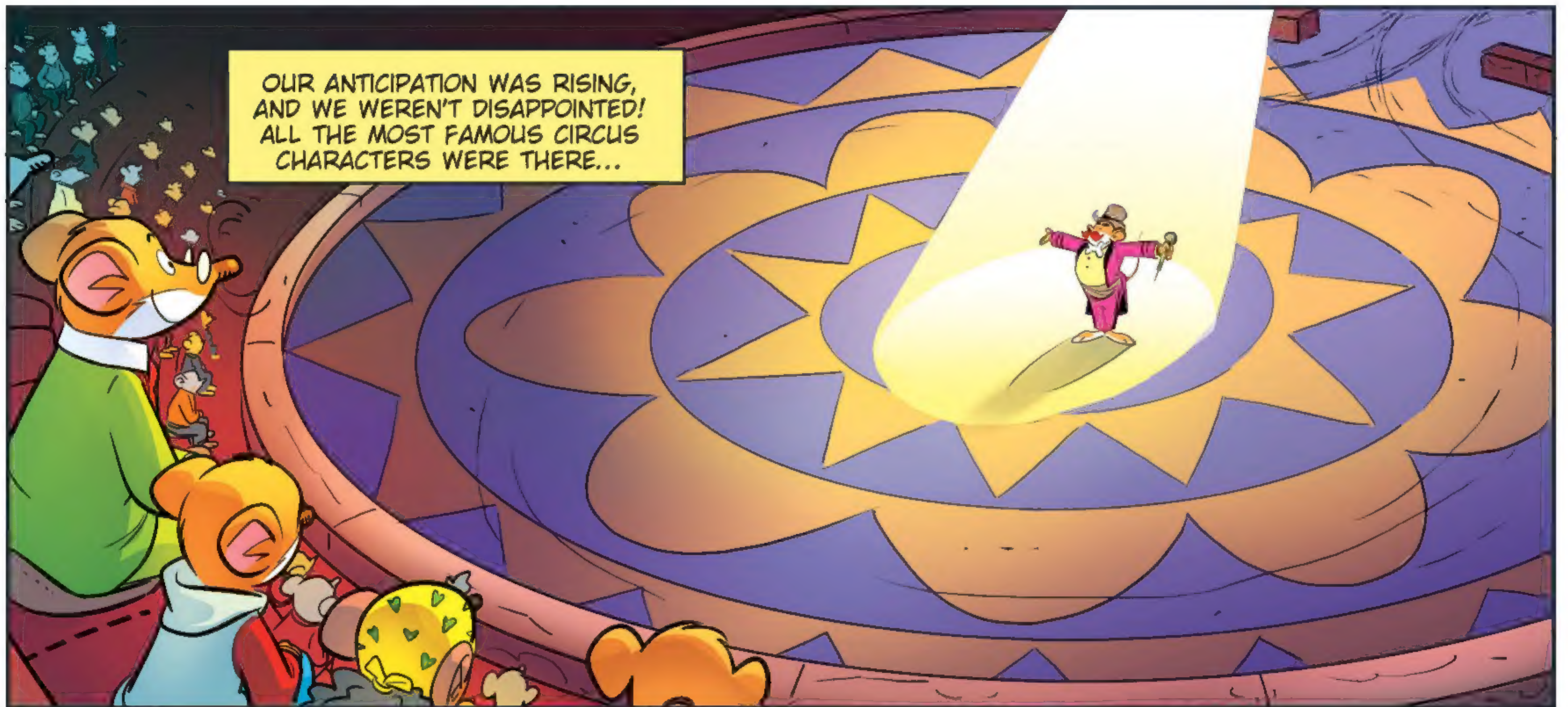
THERE WERE DIFFERENT FLAVORS. I HAD TO TAKE MY TIME CHOOSING.



COME ON, THE SHOW'S ABOUT TO BEGIN!

YOU DIDN'T TELL US HOW YOU GOT THESE TICKETS!





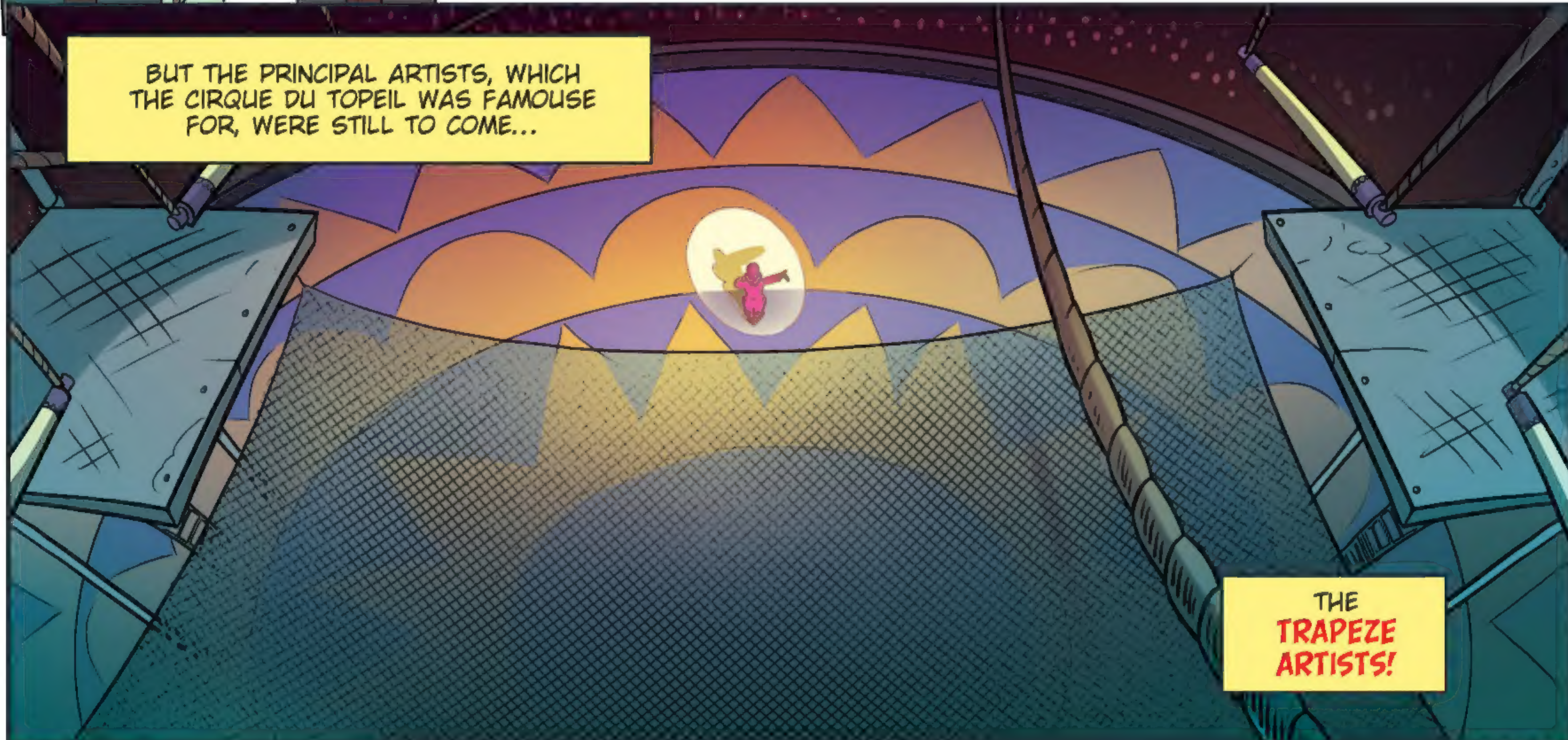




THE CLOWNS...



BUT THE PRINCIPAL ARTISTS, WHICH THE CIRQUE DU TOPEIL WAS FAMOUSE FOR, WERE STILL TO COME...



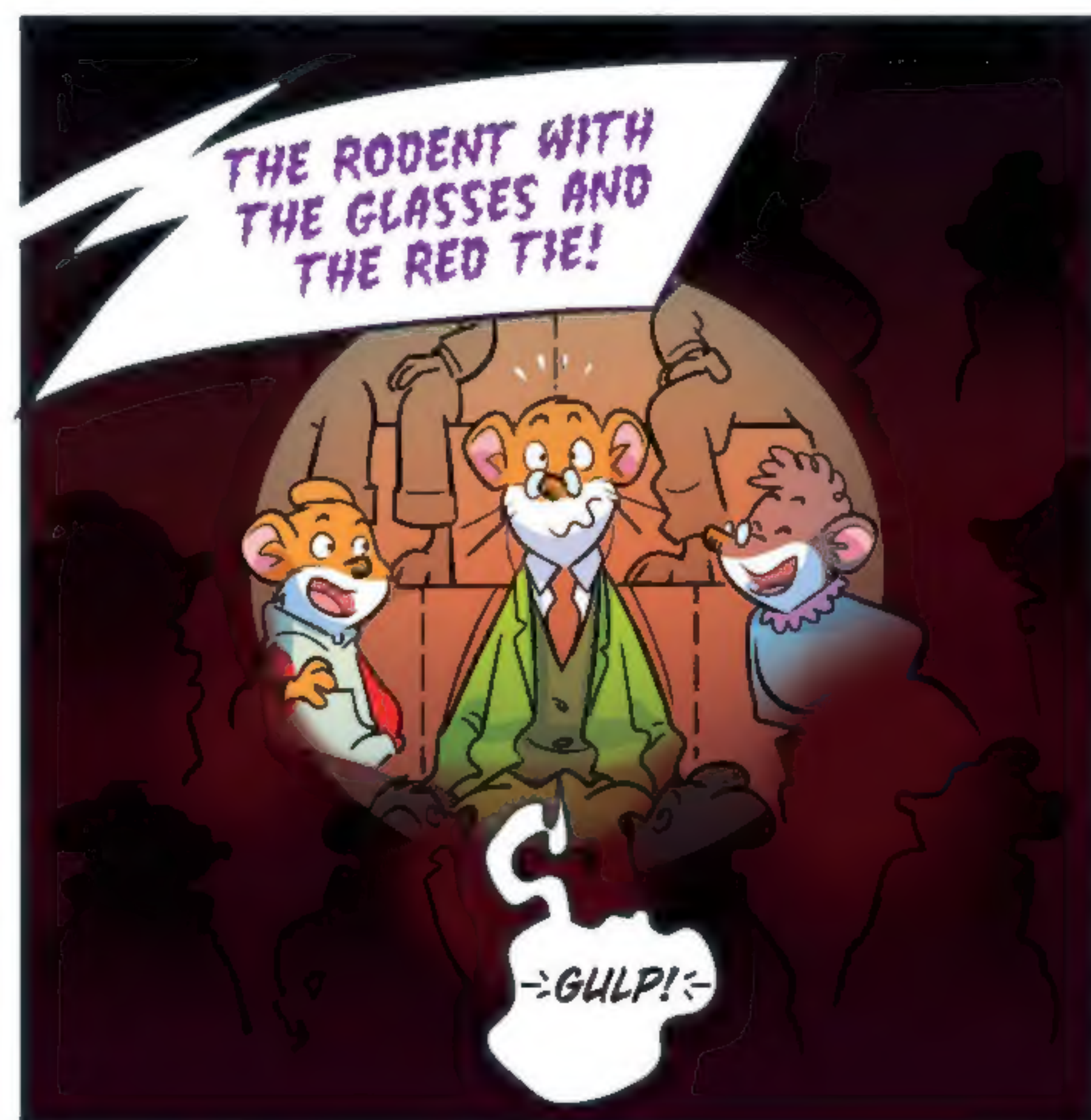
THE TRAPEZE ARTISTS!

AND NOW, AS IS OUR CUSTOM, OUR GRAND FINALE ON THE TRAPEZE WILL INCLUDE AN AUDIENCE MEMBER, CHOSEN AT RANDOM! A TRAPEZE WILL DROP WHEREVER OUR SPOTLIGHT SHINES!



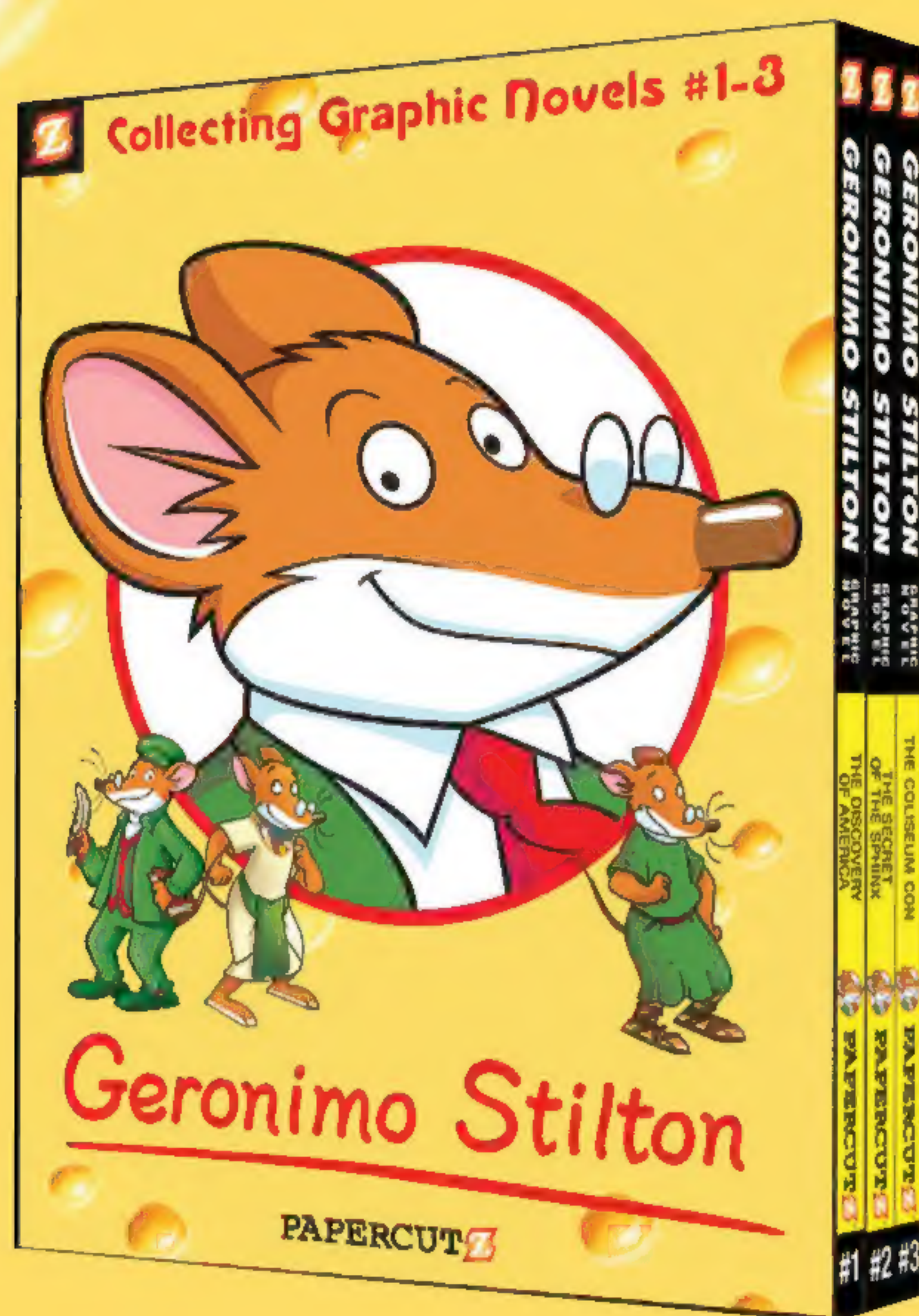
AND THE LUCKY RODENT WHO'LL PARTICIPATE IN THIS INTREPID PERFORMANCE IS...

THE RODENT WITH THE GLASSES AND THE RED TIE!



Don't miss GERONIMO STILTON #14 "The First Mouse on the Moon"!





**Geronimo  
Stilton boxed  
sets! Three  
Graphic Novels  
collected in  
each box!**



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**Available at booksellers everywhere.**



## THE GOOD...



## THE BAD...



## ...AND THE CHEESY!



**GERONIMO STILTON IS THE EDITOR OF THE RODENT'S GAZETTE, THE MOST FAMOUSE PAPER ON MOUSE ISLAND. IN HIS FREE TIME HE LOVES TO TELL FUN, HAPPY STORIES. IN THIS ADVENTURE, GERONIMO HAS TO FACE HIS WORST ENEMIES, THE PIRATE CATS, WHO HAVE DISCOVERED A WAY TO TRAVEL BACK IN TIME AND CHANGE HISTORY...**

**UTAH, USA, 1869. WORK ON THE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD CONNECTING THE EAST AND WEST COASTS KEEPS SUFFERING MYSTERIOUS MOUSEHAPS. CAN IT BE THE DASTARDLY WORK OF CATARDONE AND HIS BAND OF PIRATE CATS? IN THE UNLIKELY ROLE OF DEPUTY SHERIFF, GERONIMO STILTON MUST ONCE AGAIN SAVE THE FUTURE BY PROTECTING THE PAST!**

"Geronimo fans will eat this up quicker than a wheel of cheddar." –*Washington Times*

"Is it fact? Is it fiction? It's faction, and it's fun." –*Shelf-Employed*



**PAPERCUTZ**  
Dedicated to publishing great  
graphic novels for all ages.

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